

covering issues the way the media should

# IMPACT

August/September '02

press

#40 - Free (or \$2 by mail)

## The Growing Revolt Against Globalization



**Also**

**The Case For Granting  
Animals Legal Rights**

**Pledge Controversy:  
One Nation, Indivisible**

**Racing With Jesus Down  
Tobacco Road**



# BOUNCINGSOULS

T O U N C I N G S O U L S

# ANTI-FLAG

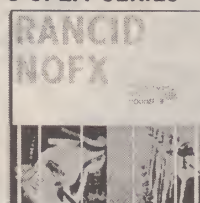
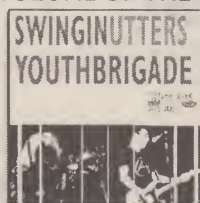
STEREO  
**BYO** SPLIT SERIES  
RECORDS  
VOLUME IV



## Brand New Songs IN STORES SEPT. 3

available on cd/lp and limited edition color vinyl

COLLECT EACH VOLUME OF THE BYO SPLIT SERIES



byo records • post office box 67609 • los angeles, ca 90067 • [www.byorecords.com](http://www.byorecords.com) • [www.bouncingsouls.com](http://www.bouncingsouls.com) • [www.anti-flag.com](http://www.anti-flag.com)



# things within

IMPACT PRESS • ISSUE 40 • AUGUST/SEPTEMBER '02



## The Growing Revolt Against Globalization

by David Michael Smith

From the streets of Seattle to the farmlands of Thailand, the movement against globalization is taking root, speaking out and getting attention. Activists of all kinds are joining together to oppose the transnational corporations, the G8 leaders, and the international financial institutions that continue to exercise worldwide exploitation and domination. • PAGE 22

"I never had much confidence in the attention span of elected officials for any kind of deep thinking about important issues.

When they pop off after what I call a bumper strip headline, they almost always give a superficial response."

-- 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Alfred Goodwin on the response to his Pledge ruling

"You have just dined, and however scrupulously the slaughterhouse is concealed in the graceful distance of miles, there is complicity."

-- Ralph Waldo Emerson

### CONTENTS:

Notes From the Cultural Wasteland by Morris Sullivan: "I'm a patriot. I love my country. I don't like its President. And I detest war." • PAGE 8

Organic Farming: A Realistic Alternative by David Suzuki: While a few people seem convinced organic farming is a scam, the research continues to suggest otherwise. • PAGE 10

Media Sizzle For An Army of Fun by Norman Solomon: The Army is reaching out to America's youth through a marketing blitz. • PAGE 11

Over-Priced Musings by Don Pflaster: The Muzzling Mob – There's a solid sort of protective gamesmanship on the part of simpleminded folks to validate their arguments in support of the United States government and its actions. But there must be a more adult approach. • PAGE 12

Racing With Jesus Down Tobacco Road by Jeff Price: It's disturbing how often NASCAR's professed born-again Christians use their time before the cameras to promote Winston brand cigarettes. • PAGE 16

Animals and Democracy Lose Out: The Fight For Downed Animals Rages On by Gene Bauston: The legislative battle for downed animals sees success, only to face defeat behind closed doors. • PAGE 18

COMICS: The Muddlemarch by Neal Skorpen • PAGE 21

One Nation, Indivisible by Morris Sullivan: Constitutionality aside, "One nation, indivisible" is more poetic—and less divisive. • PAGE 34

Legally Blind: The Case For Granting Animals Legal Rights by Dr. Steven Best: The arbitrary viewpoints that reduced human beings to slaves and property have been overturned and it's that same logic that ought to emancipate nonhuman slaves. • PAGE 36

7,254 Ways To Help You Understand WorldCom Chairman John W. Sidgmore by Adam Finley: Take a journey back in time as we watch a young John Sidgmore growing up. This look into the human side of Sidgmore might help you empathize with his situation. • PAGE 40

COMIC: The K Chronicles by Keith Knight • PAGE 41

Bastion of Ecological Literacy Under Seige: Our Public Schools by John F. Borowski: With tight budgets and crowded classrooms, teachers who don't have a grasp of the complexity of ecological issues may, in turn, be aiding and abetting corporate propaganda campaigns. • PAGE 44

A Tale Told By An Idiot by John Chuckman: It's almost as though American policy in Afghanistan had followed the script for a Hollywood summer blockbuster. Unfortunately, this isn't a movie. • PAGE 48

Quickies - A Little Bit On A Lot of Records • PAGES 50-57

Activist Event Listings: Join a protest, attend a rally. • PAGE 57

### QUOTES:



# IMPACT<sup>®</sup> press

covering issues the way the media should

PMB 361, 10151 University Blvd.  
Orlando, FL 32817 • 407.263.5504  
editor@impactpress.com  
www.impactpress.com

**Editor**  
**Craig Mazer**

**Contributing Editors**  
**Stacey Matrazzo • Morris Sullivan**

## **This Issue's Contributors**

**Gene Bauston • Steve Best**  
**John Borowski • J.C. Carnahan**  
**John Chuckman • Adam Finley**  
**Sean Helton • Marty Kelley**  
**Kelth Knight • Alex Llama**  
**Chris Lupton • Don Pflaster**  
**Jeff Price • Neal Skorpen**  
**David Smith • Norman Solomon**  
**Morris Sullivan • David Suzuki**

## **Illustrators**

**Charley Deppner • Tom Hope**  
**Marty Kelley • Greg Rebls**  
**Eric Spidler**

**Layout**  
**Craig Mazer**

**Copy Editors of the Issue**  
**Stacey Matrazzo • Kevin Mercer**  
**Randy Badillo • Chris Netram**  
**J.C. Carnahan**

**Webmaster**  
**Ben Markeson**

**front cover**  
**Eric Spidler**  
**back cover**  
**Marty Kelley**

**advertising info:**  
**407.263.5504**



© 2002 Loudmouth Productions, Inc. IMPACT press is a bi-monthly publication and is a registered trademark of Loudmouth Productions, Inc., a nonprofit organization based out of Orlando, FL. IMPACT publishes 12,000 copies bi-monthly. **ORDERING INFO:** Back issues: page 63; Subscriptions: page 20. **Boring stuff:** Ideas expressed in IMPACT press are not necessarily those of the staff or publishers of IMPACT press or Loudmouth Prod., nor should they reflect on anyone other than that specific writer.

**A Fact from IMPACT:** The original Pledge of Allegiance was published in the Sept. 8, 1892, issue of *The Youth's Companion*. For years, the authorship was in dispute between James B. Upham and Francis Bellamy of the magazine's staff. In 1939, the U.S. Flag Assoc. decided that authorship be credited to Bellamy.

"I know of no safe depository of the ultimate powers of the society but the people themselves, and if we think them not enlightened enough to exercise control with a wholesome discretion, the remedy is not to take it from them, but to inform their discretion by education." - Thomas Jefferson



On July 12<sup>th</sup> a man allegedly roasted a kitten on a grill in Clay County, Missouri. He, and the group of people with him, found this cruel action amusing, apparently "meowing" as the 7-week-old kitten was slowly cooking alive. The man, as of writing, was charged with felony animal abuse and was in jail on \$10,000 bond. The crime is punishable by up to five years in prison and a \$5,000 fine. But chances are this man, 24-year-old Charles C. Benoit, will get far less as punishment.

A brave woman, Sherry Scott, put herself in harms way to save the kitten from the grill. Unfortunately, the kitten's injuries were so severe, she had to be put to sleep. As sad as this story is, it is just one of many animal abuse cases. Too many of these cases are treated lightly in court and the true severity is overlooked by a media that often only cares about the "cute factor" of animals on TV.

"Our judicial system reflects a dinosaur-age mentality, and severe punishment is often not proposed by prosecutors, or considered by judges at sentencing. We chalk that up to ignorance, largely, as these officials, in many cases, don't seem to be aware of animal cruelty's grim implications," says Martin Mersereau, Cruelty Case-worker with People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals.

In December 2001, Kenneth Blasingim of Houston, tore the head off of a friend's parrot during a drunken dispute, throwing the wriggling body out the front door of the friend's house. Blasingim was found guilty earlier this year. But, despite a new bill in Texas making the crime a felony, a district court judge sentenced Blasingim to only four days in jail and a \$50 fine.

In April 2002, Jesse Powers, of Toronto, was sentenced to 21 months plus probation. Powers was found guilty of stealing a healthy pet cat, vivisectioning it, skinning it and gouging out its eyeball, all while the cat was alive. The sentence sounds harsh, but the reality is it isn't—of the 21 months, three are to be served on weekends and the other 18 are to be served as house arrest. The judge said he gave such a light sentence because he didn't feel Powers meant to torture the cat. The judge said the art student simply wanted to kill, skin and eventually eat the animal. ("Sentences for cat killers spark outrage," *The Globe and Mail*, April 19, 2002)

In July 2002, Timothy M. Paules Jr., of Colebrookdale Township, Pennsylvania, was sentenced to two years of probation for killing a

kitten on Oct. 6, 2001. Young children at Zimmer's Pets store asked Paules to show them a kitten they wanted to buy. According to Paules, he became enraged when the kitten bit his finger and scratched his face. He then threw the cat to the ground and stomped it to death, all of this in front of the children.

While most cases of animal cruelty go unpunished, there are a few examples of our judicial system effectively sentencing people who abuse animals. Robert Pettyjohn, of Clearwater, Florida, was sentenced to five years in jail for severely beating a llama with a golf club and gouging the animal's eye out. He also fatally sodomized and beat the animal's mother when she came to her offspring's rescue. Pettyjohn was also found guilty of hacking a pet goat to death among other crimes against animals. It is because of this long history of crimes that Pettyjohn was finally sentenced to an appropriate amount of jail time.

It's a history of crime that also landed Jeromie L. McCann in prison for 13 years for the dragging death of a dog in west Louisiana last year. It was most likely due to a previous burglary conviction that led the judge to such a harsh sentence. "You are a menace to the public and you will be treated as accordingly," said Judge H.I. Steward. ("Convicted dog-dragger gets 13 years in prison", *DeRidder Daily News*, Dec. 16, 2001)

However, regardless of past criminal behavior, such violent, cruel actions deserve immediate action. Animal abusers have been shown time and time again to be repeat offenders. Our judicial system needs to recognize this and punish offenders accordingly, so as to prevent a second offense. A strong message must be sent to any person who feels they can dominate, abuse or torture another creature.

You have the power to help make sure that message is sent. Any time you hear of a case of animal cruelty, contact the law enforcement and court officials involved in the case. Let them know that it is of the utmost importance that the evildoer is strongly punished. I highly recommend the sources below for help in both fighting for stronger sentences and assistance in reporting cases of animal cruelty you witness.

Remember, animals can't speak for themselves. We must be the voice for animals in need. It's the least we can do.

• craig mazer •

## Make an IMPACT

HelpingAnimals

<http://www.helpinganimals.com>

Int'l Institute for Humane Education

<http://www.iihed.org>



# 100% Organic Cotton T-Shirts!



(front of shirt)



(close up of front graphic)

## NEW IMPACT press T-SHIRTS!

It takes an estimated 1/3 pound of chemicals to produce one regular cotton T-Shirt. For that reason, IMPACT now sells only 100% Organic cotton, unbleached T-shirts. They are available in natural color (a sort of off-white) in XL, L, M, and S. PLEASE list alternate sizes.

How much could such a great shirt cost? \$25, \$50, \$100??? No way! These normally pricey organic cotton shirts are only \$12 (postage paid, U.S. -- \$15ppd in Canada/Mexico and \$20ppd elsewhere).

IMPACT press T-Shirt Order Form (fill this out now and dress snazzy!)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Ph# \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zipcode \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please list alternate sizes: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Qty.	Size

Send check/money order to: IMPACT press, PMB 361, 10151 University Blvd., Orlando, FL 32817

**TRANSISTOR**  
**TRANSISTOR**  
12" / CDEP



**LEVEL PLANE**  
PO BOX 4329 PHILLY PA 19118  
WWW.LEVEL-PLANE.COM  
CD/12" \$7 US  
\$8 CAN & MEX \$11 WORLD  
CHECKS TO GREG DRUDDY





# Speak Your Mind. . .

Please proof your letters. IMPACT will try to decipher them. However, help us avoid having to do extra work. ALSO - keep your letters under 400 words. Thanks!

## IMPACT:

I would like to take issue with Craig Mazer's "From The Editor" column (Issue #39). I am appalled that Mr. Mazer would compare my religion to a "product fad." Obviously he has no real insight into Christianity. It would behoove Mr. Mazer to spend some time getting to know true Christians and what we believe.

Christianity is not about fear as Mr. Mazer says. We espouse love and forgiveness. We don't "market" our beliefs, for we are not out to make a profit. Christianity is not a "fraternity" either. What I don't understand is how Mr. Mazer can demonize Christians for standing up for what we believe: saving our unborn children, saving the family from perversion, giving our children the right to voluntarily pray in school, etc. Don't liberals also put money aside for causes they support? Why must Christian causes be singled out for scrutiny?

Mr. Mazer questions why Christianity does good things for people while doing so under the "guise of religion." Simply put, it is our Christian beliefs, which convict us to do such good things in the first place. So why not share the same message with those looking for hope?

Mr. Mazer also made recommendations for GodSpeaks' billboards. I disagree with two of them. First, God created animals for many things including food and clothing. That's why they're here regardless of what the animal-rights crowd and their ilk have to say. Second, faith in one's self is not the answer to life's problems. Christianity never claims that all one's problems will be solved by faith in God. Christianity does say, however, that one can find comfort to get through those problems by having faith in God.

I think Mr. Mazer and many others who write for IMPACT should stop for a moment and take a look at what they're writ-

ing about Christianity. After all, I thought liberals were supposed to preach tolerance. This column is clearly anti-Christian in nature and doesn't speak well of tolerance of any kind. With all due respect, Mr. Mazer should realize this fact before he drowns in his own hypocrisy.

Josh Dermer  
Woodbridge, VA

## IMPACT:

Great article ("From The Editor" Issue #39) - another thing to note is that this version of Christianity is thoroughly an American phenomenon. Your suggestions in the last paragraph about what God should be saying is exactly the stance that the European Christians take. In Europe, the Christians are the ones who fight for the environment, for animals and for little people - well, like the Palestinians.

It's common knowledge that people create for themselves a God who reflects what they think is admirable and important. Specifically here in Germany, one of God's most important traits is God's orderliness, which of course is what Germans are (except for my German boyfriend!). Americans have created a God who they can respect - male, wealthy, white, powerful, with sound bites and economic advantages...hmm sort of sounds like George Bush, scary.

Thanks for having IMPACT online!

Kelly Phelps

## IMPACT:

To include all animal cruelties is an impossibility ("Cruelty Under The Big Top" Issue #39), but one missed was Ruby, the artist elephant of Tucson Zoo. Manipulated into painting abstracts with a brush held in her trunk (the proceeds from sales did not go to her kin in India) and into pregnancy and then into death from

induced labour/birthing.

The reintroduction of evicted and/or decimated animal populations really is just one more manipulation. Not allowing them to choose a preferred habitation has killed caribou, wolves, sand hill cranes - in attempts to aid the silvery minnow and others.

Mankind doesn't even know what's best for them, but still retains the idea they know what's best for all and incapable of not interfering.

It's always a pleasure to find another alternative news publication.

Katherine Donithorne

## IMPACT:

Thank you for the wonderful article by Dr. Steven Best ("It's War" Issue #38)! While I do not support the tactics employed by SHAC and the ALF, I am very much in support of what they are trying to accomplish.

I thought your article answered a lot of questions I had about various groups and approached the attitude of the meat and dairy industries in a manner I very much agree with.

Thank you,

Margaret (Lawrence, KS)

## IMPACT:

Thank you for an article ("It's War" Issue #38) that finally explained to me why suddenly the various tactics utilized to protest unnecessary suffering of animals are now being called terrorist activities, a designation with which I completely disagree, unless actual physical violence has occurred.

I am sick and tired of reading references to so called animal rights terrorist activities that give no specifics as to who did what to whom, when it was done and where it was done. I had come to the conclusion that most of the allega-



# Speak Your Mind. . .

Please proof your letters. IMPACT will try to decipher them. However, help us avoid having to do extra work. ALSO - keep your letters under 400 words. Thanks!

tions were urban myths.

I do not condone inflicting bodily harm on those who commit cruelty to animals, but civilized people have a moral obligation to protest when unnecessary pain is inflicted on animals. Honoring that moral obligation hardly makes one a terrorist.

Clova Abrahamson  
Bartlesville, OK

---

## IMPACT:

I agree with a number of your arguments including the problems with privatization, dangers of stocks, and that Social Security will endure ("Four Lies About Social Security" Issue #37).

I don't think you can completely discard the Trust Fund "sham" argument.

It seems like each side of the Social Security Trust Fund "sham" argument treats it like a black and white issue. That limits the argument to: "It's a sham and will be catastrophic." or "It's not a sham and can take care of things into the distant future."

Note the federal deficit or surplus numbers that the federal government states each year do NOT separate out net Social Security funds. That means federal budgets effectively treat Social Security funds as current monies.

It seems to me that when that net becomes negative - projected to be around 2013 - the U.S. government is going to have to do more than "tweak" things. Otherwise, those working - a smaller % of the population than now - are going to bear progressively larger tax burdens to pay for those "cashed in" treasury bonds. The Federal government will have to take steps to limit S.S. payments or will find it impossible to provide the same level of federal services.

Today we have: Federal Income + S.S. monies = federal services.

Tomorrow we have: Federal Income - S.S. monies = federal services.

I was born in 1950 and my personal retirement (in 2012) plan is on-track if Social Security will pay monthly 67% of what it claims. They've already reduced my monthly take by 6.25% (age 62 gets 75% instead of the previous 80% of "full" payments) and my younger brother's take by 12.5% so I think the potential for a further 33% drop - especially for those of us that have good pensions, funds in IRA's etc, is reasonable.

Overall, thanks for an informative article!

Mickey Cashen

---

## IMPACT:

I just finished Morris Sullivan's defense of the Catholic Church ("Notes From the Cultural Wasteland" Issue #39) and find myself baffled as to its point. If I could venture a guess, it would be that, because of America's traditional anti-Catholic sentiment (perhaps even as part of a larger conspiracy to discredit the Vatican's "strong" anti-war stance), a herd-mentality has pressured the media into championing the unchallenged claims of abuse survivors (who are probably in it for the fat cash settlements anyway). Not only does "the Church and its priests do a lot of good in our society" but it's often been a leader in all sorts of proper liberal causes. And though sometimes guilty of "well-intentioned if sometimes misguided moralism," it is preferable to the "avarice-driven amorality of the multinational corporation." Even if we were so misguided as to hold responsible an entire organization as corrupt because of a few bad apples, the separation from church and state thankfully prohibits such capricious acts. Besides, Sullivan has met many nice Catholics who were never even once diddled by priests!

What Sullivan neglects of course are facts inconvenient to his confused argument. Undoubtedly the Church is engaged in many noble enterprises, but one could just as well argue that the Catholic Church has also been historically anti-Semitic (which it has admitted), provided the moral justification for slavery and imperialism (which it has admitted), remained passive in the face of Nazism (which it has admitted) and remains hostile in its attitudes towards homosexuality, birth control and reproductive rights. Either way it would be irrelevant to the issue at hand.

What the Catholic Church is being condemned for in these cases is not guilt by association with a few bad apples, but systematically and knowingly providing sanctuary for pedophiles. This has nothing to do with the separation of church and state or anti-Catholic prejudices. As the criminal court cases have found, and it's own leadership has confirmed, the Church hierarchy has consistently failed to report or simply ignored cases of child abuse while continuing to place children under the supervision of abusers. And the strongest safeguard The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops can muster is a two-strikes-you're-out policy! One wonders if Sullivan would rise to the defense of one of those avarice-driven multinational corporations if one of them faced these charges. Unlikely.

The Catholic Church *has* been held to a different standard than other institutions, a lower one. That the Catholic Church is finally being called upon to take responsibilities for its actions and their foreseeable consequences is long overdue. Child abuse is an insidious crime against the powerless, and our sympathy rightly rests with the victims of abuse, not with those who stand by and allow it to happen.

Tom Hope



# Notes from the Cultural Wasteland

morris sullivan  
morris sullivan



I REMEMBER IT VIVIDLY, even though it was more than three decades ago. I was a chubby 14-year-old living in Lubbock, Texas, and it was near the end of summer. In those days, cool people had long hair; Lubbock schools worked hard to keep any of their students from appearing cool by allowing their hair to reach their collars or touch their ears. So I had spent the summer willing my hair to grow fast, and it was starting to look less like a crew cut.

I probably wore motorcycle-style boots as I walked down the street toward a corner of Lubbock that lay on the fringe of Texas Tech. There was a sort of shopping center there, a hodgepodge assortment of old houses and retail buildings arranged around a dirt lot. One makeshift store housed a head shop. Another had hand-made leather goods, while another had a very underground record store.

Most of the shopkeepers were in their twenties, trying to stretch out their college deferment as long as possible, in hopes to avoid a trip to Vietnam. For me, the freaky shopping center was a good place to pick up Lubbock's underground newspaper, maybe buy the new Zap or Fabulous Furry Freak Brothers comic, and hang around the record store, which was run by a fanatical Hendrix buff, listening to bootlegs of Jimi's performances.

I was interested in antiwar politics, of course. But after all, I was just a pudgy, asthmatic 14-year-old.

I heard a horn blare from the traffic behind me. I turned, expecting to see a friend waving from his mom's car, or maybe my dad passing by on his way to a sales call. Instead, there was a faded red pickup truck. There was a gun rack in the back window and several bumper stickers, reading "America, Love it or Leave It" and "America: Right or Wrong." I could see the middle-aged driver's bloated red face above the prickly hairs of his clean-shaven neck. His hand was extended out the window toward me. The redneck sonofabitch was flipping me the bird.

The guy probably considered himself a patriot, and probably assumed I was anti-American. His assumptions were somewhat justified: a lot of people not too much older than I were demonstrating against a war—and the government that perpetuated the war—that was increasingly seen as unjust, unwarranted, and unnecessary. In fact, that was about the time of My Lai, where an entire village, including innocent women and children, was wiped out by American forces.

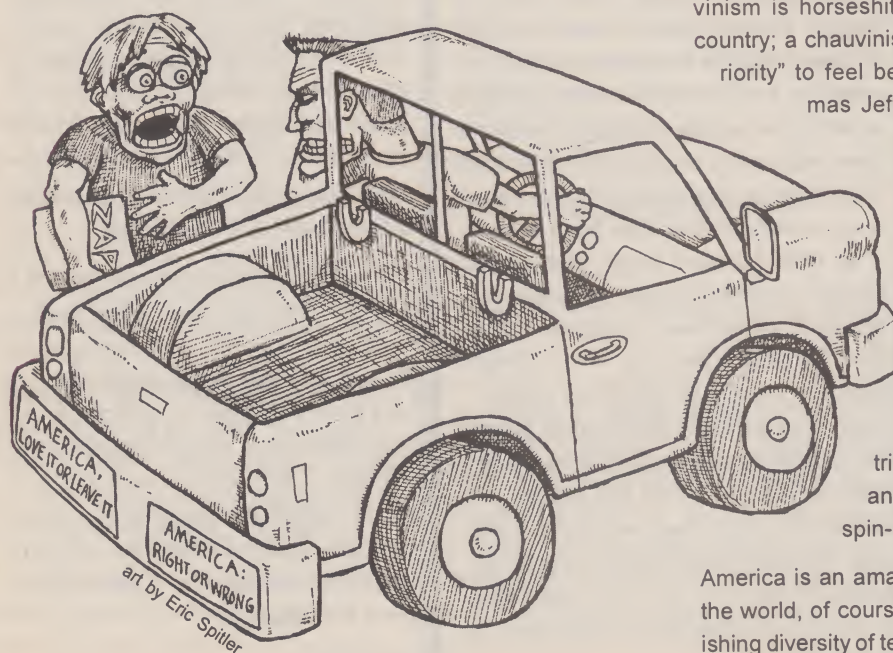
Unfortunately, a lot of Americans were more like the pickup-truck driver. Maybe they didn't have a gun rack, and maybe they didn't give the finger to 14-year-old kids, but they found it impossible to both love their country and insist that their government behave rationally.

The bumper-sticker sentiment, "America, Right or Wrong," is not a patriotic one—it is a chauvinistic one. Patriotism is rational; chauvinism is horseshit. A patriot loves, defends, and supports his country; a chauvinist loves himself, and uses his country's "superiority" to feel better about himself. Patriotism produces Thomas Jeffersons; chauvinism produces Hitlers.

I am a patriot. I love my country. I do not like its President. And I detest war.

I don't believe that makes me treasonous. Personally, I see no inherent conflict in loving one's country and criticizing its policies or its politicians. Earlier in the War on Terrorism, both Bush and Ashcroft made remarks along the lines of "You're either for us or you're against us." Those are not patriotic sentiments. One can easily be for America, and still recognize the efforts of the government's spin-doctors as so much bullshit.

America is an amazing place. There are other amazing places in the world, of course, but America has within its borders an astonishing diversity of terrain, of people, and of cultures. We have moun-





tain ranges and coral reefs, deserts and rain forests, the most contemporary of cities and the most pastoral of countryside. We have produced art as fine and folk art as exotic as any on the globe. And young as we are, we have a rich history, peopled with characters and situations that range from heartbreaking to inspirational.

It is possible to love all that, while still criticizing politicians that, as Bush did recently, publicly threaten to get tough on corporate shenanigans while remaining firmly nestled in the corporate hip pocket. And it is possible to love America while doubting its wars.

In the coming months, I predict, there will be a widening dichotomy between the mindlessly chauvinistic Americans who keep sticking flags on their car antennae and those who have already or will soon become disenfranchised and disheartened by a faltering economy, a lengthening war with no clear enemy, and increasing distrust of both corporate America and Washington.

The patriotic fervor that consumed America several months ago has already begun to wane. I've seen several examples of that recently—some coming from unusual places, like the *New York Times*, folk music, and the Ad Council.

The *Times*, for example, recently launched its multi-media web page. Two "slide shows" on the page were surprising: the first, entitled "The Remains of an Israeli Strike" shows scenes of devastation in Palestine, including parents crying for their lost children; the second, "A Legacy of Misery," shows the aftermath of our non-war on Afghanistan, including its effect on civilians.

Folk/country singer, Steve Earle, is getting ready to release "John Walker's Blues," a song more or less praising the so-called "American Taliban," John Walker Lindh. Predictably, an AP story reported that some critics feel Earle is being unpatriotic. Others, however, argue in favor of the song, saying it's "provocative." Earle himself says the album carrying the song, *Jerusalem*, is his "most Pro-American" record. "In fact, I feel urgently American," he writes on his web site, before launching into an informed criticism of the "Patriot Act," the "anti-terrorist" legislation that many Americans consider an assault against civil liberties.

The Patriot Act is a euphemistically named piece of legislation that has little to nothing to do with patriotism. Adopted by Congress last October, it is designed to make it easier to find and prosecute terrorists and potential terrorists.

Part of the support for the act came from advertising created by the Ad Council, the same non-profit organization that created iconic graphic ads during World War II like Rosie the Riveter and the "Loose Lips Sink Ships" campaign. After September 11, the council and the Bush administration got together to help create a World War II mentality in millennial America.

Their ads, which can be viewed on their web site, came about from Americans' need for messages "that will inform, involve, and inspire them during the war on terrorism." Each ad ends with the tag line, "Freedom. Appreciate it. Cherish it. Protect it."

One ad portrays the arrest of a young man, whose car is searched

for contraband during an otherwise-routine traffic search. The cops find the "contraband," a stack of newspapers hidden under the car's back seat. Another portrays the detainment of a young man who goes to the library and asks for the "wrong" books. It ends with the question, "What if America wasn't?"

The message, of course, is that we should protect our freedoms—which, of course, we should. Ironically, these ads were designed to drum up support for the war on terrorism. Terrorists, however, did little if anything to threaten our freedom of the press. The threats against those liberties came not from terrorism, but from our own government, which severely limited journalistic access to Afghanistan—and, of course, sponsored the Patriot Act. Were I not aware of the source, I'd swear some of the ads were subversive. However, they're probably just ironic.

Lying across the back of my chair as I write is a tee shirt, which came from the July 4 celebration at a small southern community. The town is tiny, and on the surface might even appear provincial. Some of its leaders are descended from its earliest settlers, and there is a little white church, it seems, on almost every corner of Main Street.

And apparently, it is a town full of patriots. Their plans for an Independence Day celebration began with predictable nods to firefighters, cops, and the like. And the tee shirt, predictably enough, has an American flag that segues somewhere along its length into the severe scowl of a bald eagle.

Less predictably—and unusual, especially in these times—a few level headed folks suggested expanding the celebration's themes beyond the usual patriotic clichés. So rather than proclaiming "God Bless America," the shirt proudly "celebrates America's freedoms." Alongside the eagle and flag, more than 25 such liberties are listed, among them the right to assemble, freedom of the press, the prohibition of slavery, and the universal right to vote.

During the town's July 4 celebration, they had an old fashioned parade, a barbecue, and singing of patriotic songs. However, they also posted copies of the Bill of Rights around the park. Their volunteers wore the shirts with the list of constitutional freedoms, and they invited groups like the ACLU to distribute literature.

I think we need more patriotism like that. We need patriots committed to protecting our country from threats from terrorists and Middle Eastern dictators. However, we also need patriots committed to protecting us from ourselves. ❧

## Make an IMPACT

USA Patriotism Act (Text of)

<http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/bdquery/z?d107:H.R.3162>:

Ad Council's "Campaign For Freedom"

[http://www.adcouncil.org/campaigns/campaign\\_for\\_freedom](http://www.adcouncil.org/campaigns/campaign_for_freedom)



# Organic Farming: A Realistic Alternative

Strange how a movement that began with the best of intentions has managed to generate so much animosity. I'm talking about organic farming. But while a few people seem convinced it's a scam, the research continues to suggest otherwise.

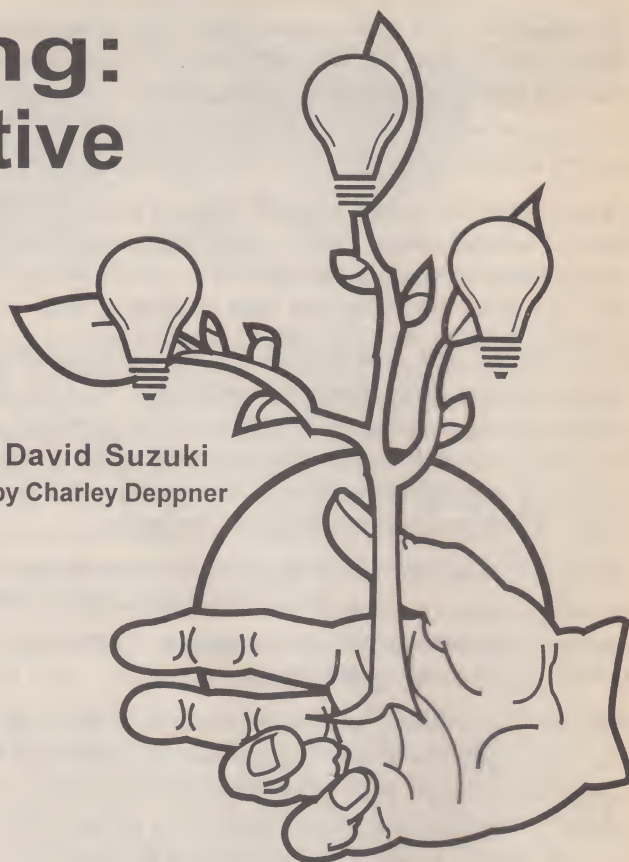
Organically grown food is certainly popular. People buy it for any number of reasons—they say it tastes better, they're concerned about the effects of pesticide residue on their families' health and they believe it is less harmful to the environment. They're willing to pay a premium price for it, too.

Because the organic movement is relatively new, there has not been a wealth of scientific data to confirm organic farmers' anecdotal observations that this method produces good yields while maintaining healthier soils and ecosystems. Such claims are too good to be true, according to some proponents of industrial agriculture. A few years ago, the *Nature of Things* did a program on organic farming. I thought it was a Mom and apple pie-type show that everyone would love. To my amazement, we (I'm the host of the show) were inundated with letters of outrage from university agriculture facilities and chemical companies arguing that conventional monocultures with copious inputs of synthetic fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides were the only way we could possibly feed our growing human population.

Today, some critics seem genuinely angry at the success of the organic movement. They've written books and published articles in journals saying that organic farmers are starry-eyed idealists who are trying to bring back 19th century farming practices which will reduce yields by four times and thus, if widely adopted, will lead to mass starvation.

But organic farming isn't about turning back the clock; it's about moving forward. It's about smart farming to help maintain healthy ecosystems. Conventional farming produces high yields, but there are also enormous costs—pollution of groundwater, rivers, lakes and coastal areas, and reduced soil productivity through nutrient leaching. The use of pesticides and herbicides also kills beneficial non-target species and poses a health risk to farm workers and potentially to consumers. None of these "external" costs are factored in to the price of conventionally grown crops.

Organic farming seeks to reduce these external costs and it seems to be working. According to a landmark 21-year study recently published in the journal *Science* (Soil Fertility and Biodiversity in Organic Farming, May 31, 2002), organic farming can produce good yields, save energy, maintain biodiversity and keep soils healthy. The study took place on 1.5 hectares in Switzerland using four farming methods and several different crops. Crop yields, on average, were 20 per cent lower using organic methods, but they required 56 per cent less energy per unit of yield. Organic plots also



By David Suzuki  
art by Charley Deppner

had 40 per cent greater colonization by fungi that help plants absorb nutrients, three times as many earthworms and twice as many pest-eating spiders.

Some crops fared better under organic systems than did others. Potatoes, for example, produced 38 per cent lower yields, but winter wheat was just 10 per cent lower. The researchers sum up, "We conclude that organically manured, legume-based crop rotations utilizing organic fertilizers from the farm itself are a realistic alternative to conventional farming systems."

Other studies have also shown similar results. A comparison study completed last year on apples ("Sustainability of three apple production systems," *Nature*, April 19, 2001), for example, found that organic crops can produce yields similar to conventional crops, and that they taste better. Another paper published in the *Journal of Applied Ecology* ("Pest damage and arthropod community structure in organic vs. conventional tomato production in California", 2001) last year found that using organic methods to grow tomatoes can promote biodiversity while maintaining productivity.

It is important to keep in mind that there is much that we don't know about agriculture and there is likely no ultimate answer to our food production needs. To feed our growing population we have to be open to all ideas, new and old. And we mustn't let the entrenched interests of the commercial agriculture and biotechnology industries dictate the future of our food when less intensive and damaging alternatives are available. ❧

**Dr. David Suzuki** is a geneticist, broadcaster, author, teacher and Chair of the David Suzuki Foundation ([www.davidsuzuki.org](http://www.davidsuzuki.org)).



# Media Sizzle For An Army of Fun

By Norman Solomon

Norman Solomon is executive director of the Institute for Public Accuracy, a nationwide consortium of public-policy. His latest book is "The Habits of Highly Deceptive Media." His syndicated column focuses on media and politics.

If you call the toll-free number on the TV screen during one of those upbeat Army commercials, a large envelope will arrive with a white t-shirt inside. On the back is a slogan in big block letters: "AN ARMY OF ONE."

The only other thing in the package is a videotape called "212 Ways to Be a Soldier." A hard-driving rock soundtrack propels all 20 minutes. Graphics flash with a cutting-edge look (supplied by a designer who gained ad-biz acclaim for working on a smash Nike commercial). Young adults provide warm narratives about their daily lives in the Army. From the outset, the mood is reassuring.

Sometimes, the screen fills with helicopters, intrepid soldiers rappelling through the air, men advancing across terrain as they carry machine guns—always accompanied by plenty of rock 'n' roll—all in the service of a country much more comfortable dishing out extreme violence than experiencing it. There's no talk of risk, and scarcely a mention of killing.

Carefully multiracial and coed, the video gets a lot of its juice from an undertone of foreclosed civilian possibilities. It beckons the non-affluent who feel trapped by a lack of appealing options.

"Probably if I hadn't joined the Army," says a 19-year-old woman, "I would be doing the same thing most of my friends are doing, which is working fast food." In contrast, her story has a happy twist. Army recruiters "told me about the college fund that I'd be getting. ... And really, that was the kicker for me, 'cause college was priority."

Another soldier cites dollar figures: "I got my degree from George Washington University, a degree that would cost me \$40,000—but cost me about 500 through the Army." An African-American medical tech says that the Army permitted him to "get to see some cool things in the O.R. as far as the surgeries are concerned." An Army-trained chef looks forward to the day she can open her own restaurant.

"Basically," says a male reservist, "I get to play James Bond in the Army. I participate in stuff like conducting liaison interviews with potential spies. I love my job. It'll also help in my civilian job in that I work a lot with computers." A female soldier, identified as "interrogator" and "Spanish linguist," also beams with pride as she offers an explanation to the camera: "I can't really tell you

a lot about the job, 'cause it is secret."

Few could doubt the youthful energy. Or the hopeful stamina. Or, beneath the surface, the numbed capacity for immense cruelty.

When a helmeted captain—seated at the controls of a helicopter—speaks about being part of the Army's "air cavalry," her voice is a blend of military fervor and adolescent zest. "The mission of the cav is to spot the enemy," she says. "It's cool, too, because we get to engage the enemy as well with the guns and everything on our aircraft. It's a challenge and it's really, it's a lot of fun. Heck, what other job can you fire weapons in?" She laughs. Piled onto a huge tank, some soldiers are having a ball. One says: "We got the biggest toy in the world."

Recruiters are starting to distribute 1.2 million free software discs for a pair of new computer-game play adventures called "America's Army, the Official U.S. Army Game." This summer, most of those discs will be attached to video-game magazines. And the Pentagon is inviting youngsters to download the software from the Internet.

Inducing enlistment costs money. The Army has set aside \$7.5 million for its initial video-game project. That's a bargain, according to Lt. Col. Casey Wardynski, director of the office of Economic and Manpower Analysis: "The game pays for itself if only 300 Ameri-

cans say that this gaming experience convinced me that this is the right thing to do."

Overall, the Army is spending \$150 million a year to sell itself to potential recruits. And, of course, the current advertising campaign is the result of rigorous calculations.

When the secretary of the Army announced a major overhaul of recruitment themes in early 2001, he pledged that "market research will now be an ongoing part of how the Army thinks about how it communicates with young people." At his side was Linda Wolf, the CEO of the Army's main private ad agency, Leo Burnett Worldwide. "The key with any advertising is understanding the target that that advertising is directed at," Wolf said. She added: "We dug into our target and really understood them." ❧





## over-priced musings

brought to you by  
Don Pflaster



## The Muzzling Mob

There's a whale of a dark cultural tide sweeping the nation these days.

The widespread lunacy immediately following the terrorist attacks seems to have tapered off somewhat. However, there definitely remains a solid sort of protective gamesmanship on the part of simpleminded folks to validate their arguments in support of the United States government and its actions. Such people seek to label others as "un-American" if they take issue with the way the government is handling its implied obligation to exact revenge on those who attacked us.

If a person suggests that America has possibly done a few things wrong, many times you will hear from a staunch defender, "America is the best country in the world, and if you have a problem with that, you can go somewhere else!" This trite blather is often the end-all/be-all of all counter-arguments, the last resort, the final say. And it has tremendous backing in the population—some stranger in Jersey City actually turned around and said that to us for no reason whatsoever as we were watching the fireworks explode over the East River this July 4th. "Yeah," we replied.

Actor Ed Asner recently joined up with many other artists to denounce the war on terrorism, or a "war with-

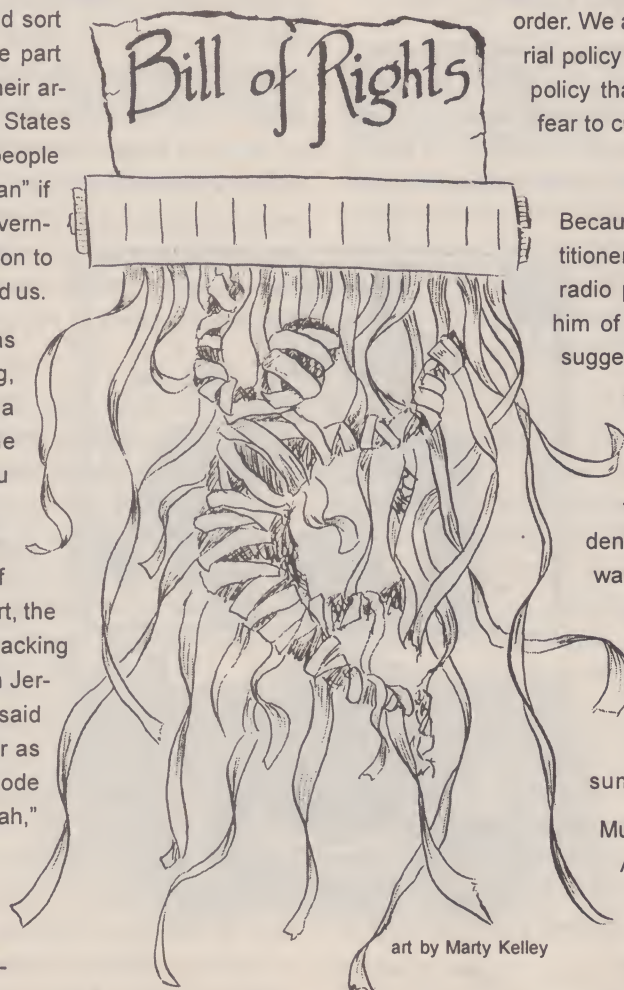
out limit," as they called it, in a document titled "Not in Our Name." It was deeply critical of how we rushed to war, how we detained thousands without affording them rights. An excerpt:

We must take the highest officers of the land seriously when they talk of a war that will last a generation and when they speak of a new domestic order. We are confronting a new openly imperial policy towards the world and a domestic policy that manufactures and manipulates fear to curtail rights.

Because of this document, he and fellow petitioners drew fire from conservatives such as radio personality Steve Malzberg, accusing him of espousing anti-American sentiments, suggesting he should sit back, shut up, and support the war.

*Politically Incorrect* host Bill Maher, in the week following the terrorist attack, was very outspoken about decadent American lifestyles and attitudes toward the rest of the world and how that likely prompted the attacks. Outside pressure on ABC from the muzzling mob regarding his comments is most likely the reason why he lost his show, which ended earlier this summer.

Musician George Michael, who isn't even American, is also being shelled by U.S. talking heads for a recent song entitled "Shoot the Dog." In this song, he criticizes British Prime Minister Tony



art by Marty Kelley



Blair for being the "dog" of President Bush—just rolling over to the wishes of the U.S. government without question.

The fallacy that so many seem to ignore lies in equating the government with America. America *has* the greatest *form* of government ever to exist, hands-down. Nothing even comes close to the brilliance of our system of government. The brilliance of its creation was in realizing that humans are, in their most primal form, tyrannical, cruel, selfish, and power-hungry. There needed to be a system that would save people from themselves. And thus, we have the "checks and balances" on every aspect of our government to ensure that nobody ever acquires a position of too much power. We have the right to criticize our leaders, the right to petition them for change, and the right to replace them, if it becomes absolutely necessary.

Those who are critical of the war and government actions against domestic detainees are not suggesting that there's something wrong with the principles and ideals that make America's government the greatest social contract ever drawn up in the history of mankind. Rather the reverse—they are the *most* American among any of us, because they have the courage to use the rights that they possess. They are critical of the *people* currently in power—the ones who decide for the rest of us where we go as a nation, and the same people that are potentially capable of unspeakable tyranny and cruelty, and so they must be watched always.

Critics of the current government simply don't like the direction we're going, and their intention is certainly not to lead a bunch of

people with torches to the National Archives to set all of the great cornerstone U.S. documents on fire. To even suggest that they have forfeited their rights to be Americans by stepping out of line with the rest of the nation is ridiculous, childish, and the product of a weak mind.

The right to dissent is the most important one of all. It is the very first amendment to the constitution. It seems the only champions of free speech in recent history have been artists trying to get away with titillating acts of obscene defiance, such as saying naughty words on television or showing a boob on *NYPD Blue*. Precious little attention is given to the real meaning of free speech, which too often falls victim to the silencing blows of the American hive mentality.

This is one of the most important times in American history, where we must choose to steer this gigantic battleship in one direction or another. And everyone has the right to have a hand on the helm. There must be a more adult approach to differing opinions, for our brethren cannot continue to be silenced in such embarrassingly simplistic ways. ❧

## Make an IMPACT

Not in Our Name

<http://www.notinourname.net/statement.html>



VR175 - CD ONLY

## SNAPCASE END TRANSMISSION THE NEW ALBUM IN STORES SEPT. 24. 2002



VICTORY RECORDS  
VICTORYRECORDS.COM  
SNAPCASE.COM

"AN UNRELENTING JACKHAMMER TO THE SKULL... A CROSSROADS BETWEEN HARDCORE AND FUGAZI-ISH INDIE ROCK." —GUITAR WORLD



# JUSTIN SANE

LIFE, LOVE, AND THE PURSUIT OF JUSTICE

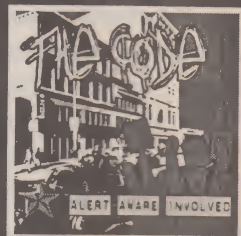
Also Available



AF0014 Anti-Flag  
"Mobilize"



AF0015 Thought Riot  
"Shattered Mirror Syndrome"



AF0017 The Code  
"Alert Aware Involved"

Debut full length solo CD from the singer of Anti-Flag  
**IN STORES NOW**

A-F RECORDS P.O. BOX 71266 PITTSBURGH PA 15213 [www.a-frecords.com](http://www.a-frecords.com)



LIVE  
PUNK



NO.3

A FAT WRECK CHORDS PRODUCTION

# SICK OF IT ALL



2002

LIVE IN A DIVE

OUR THIRD RELEASE IN THE

# LIVE IN A DIVE SERIES!

NEW YORK HARDCORE  
TORCHBEARERS SICK OF  
IT ALL PUMMEL YOU  
WITH THE INTENSITY AND  
POWER OF THEIR LIVE  
PERFORMANCE AND A  
TRULY MONUMENTAL SET  
LIST OF ALL THE HITS  
AND CLASSICS!

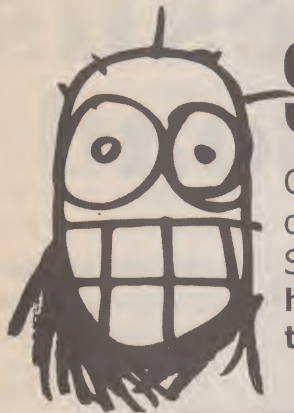
ENHANCED CD FEATURING LIVE  
VIDEOS AND INTERVIEW. LP INCLUDES  
SICK OF IT ALL COMIC BOOK



Fat Wreck Chords  
P.O. Box 193690 San Francisco, CA 94119  
[www.fatwreck.com](http://www.fatwreck.com)







# stickergiant.com

Over 3000 stickers representing all points of view. The first amendment is yours to use. Say it with Stickers from StickerGiant.com.  
<http://www.stickergiant.com>  
toll free 866-774-7900

**BULLSHIT**

**BUSH**  
**CHEATED**

**I SAW CHANDRA WITH ELVIS**

**RE-ELECT  
GORE IN 2004**

**YUCK**  **BUSH!**

Not another  
**SON OF A BUSH**  
in the White House

**BUSH** **AMERICA'S  
CHENEY** **SECOND  
CHOICE**

**IMPEACH BUSH**

**BIPARTISANSHIP**

I'll hug your elephant  
if you kiss my ass

It ain't over  
til your brother  
counts the votes

Electile  
**Dysfunction**

**EXECUTION STOPS  
A BEATING HEART**

**FIGHT THE RIGHT**

**HATRED IS NOT  
A FAMILY VALUE**

 **ARM  
THE  
HOMELESS** 

**Jenna Bush  
stole my ID**

**INVEST IN AMERICA**  
*Buy a Congressman*

**JESUS IS A LIBERAL**

**SUPPORT YOUR  
LOCAL REVOLUTION**

**MALL★WART**  
YOUR SOURCE FOR CHEAP PLASTIC CRAP

**I Love My Country**  
**BUT FEAR MY GOVERNMENT**

**HE IS NOT MY PRESIDENT**  
www.whatepresident.com

**THE ROAD TO HELL IS  
PAVED WITH REPUBLICANS**

**QUESTION AUTHORITY**

**CAN'T SEE THE FOREST  
FOR THE BUSHES**

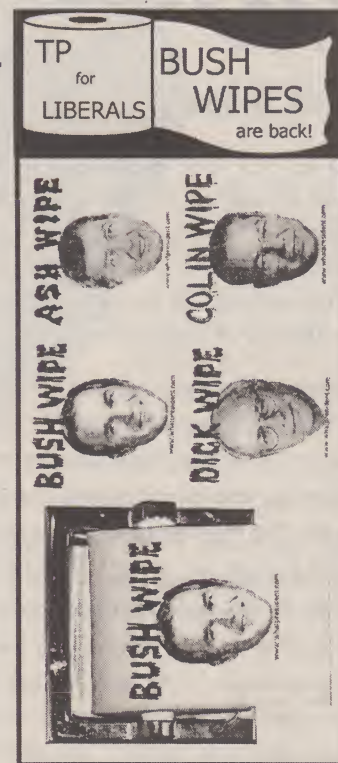
**"SPEAK YOUR MIND, EVEN  
IF YOUR VOICE SHAKES"**  
MAGGIE KUBIK




**BICYCLE FOR  
CLEAN AIR** 

**COMPOST HAPPENS**

**Think Globally  
Act Locally** 



**LOVE YOUR  
MOTHER** 

 **EXTINCT  
IS  
FOREVER**

**MY OTHER CAR IS  
A PAIR OF BOOTS**

**SAVE THE  
HUMANS** 

**TREEHUGGER**



**ACTIONS SPEAK LOUDER  
THAN BUMPERSTICKERS**

<http://www.stickergiant.com> 866-774-7900

<http://www.stickergiant.com> 866-774-7900



# Racing With Jesus Down Tobacco Road

by Jeff Price

IT IS NO SECRET THAT NASCAR IS POPULATED by a majority of professed born-again Christians who often use their time before the cameras to promote their faith in Jesus Christ. What's disturbing about this is how often these same people use their time before the cameras to promote Winston brand cigarettes—the primary sponsor of NASCAR's elite series.

In response to this apparent conflict of interest, many are beginning to ask, "How can a born-again Christian advertise, promote, and share in the profits of a product that directly causes the addiction, suffering, and hideous death of millions of people?"

Reverend Pat Evans, President of 'Racing With Jesus Ministries', answers the question this way: "I think it is pretty basic. It is a legal substance. It has never caused any disease. The people who overindulged in tobacco were willing participants and not victims. Drunkenness causes more fatalities each year than tobacco, yet I never get questions about Budweiser. If a car was sponsored by a Columbian Marijuana grower, I would object because it is an illegal substance in this country. I would say be more upset and concerned that Kevin Triplett [director of NASCAR Operations], ordered driver Morgan Shepherd to remove the name Jesus from the hood of his Craftsman Truck. To be concerned about tobacco in these times, to me, is akin to what Jesus said in Matthew 23:24: You blind guides! You strain out a gnat but swallow a camel."

To begin with, the concern was not with tobacco. The concern, for many Americans in these times, is with the gross dereliction of duty, and total lack of leadership from high-profile and influential individuals who claim to represent truth, morals, and family values.

But if the concern was with tobacco, how is it that the born-again Christians in NASCAR are the last group of people on earth who seem to be unaware of the deadly effects of tobacco use, and remain blissfully ignorant of the tobacco industry's advertising goals? RJ Reynolds, makers of Winston cigarettes, was recently fined \$20 million dollars for violating the 1998 Tobacco Settlement with an aggressive magazine ad campaign that the court concluded was clearly aimed at teens.<sup>1</sup> Yet how is this any different from a NASCAR driver, sporting a Winston cap, and sitting down for an autograph session with all the young fans who look up to him? Do we have to wait for the court to step in and decide that this practice is another RJ Reynolds marketing ploy aimed at kids? Probably. But right now, it remains a common and legal practice—

and according to Reverend Pat, as long as cigarettes are legal in this country, it's perfectly acceptable for a Christian to advertise, promote, and profit from their sale.

Reverend Pat also seemed dismayed that he never gets any questions regarding the beer sponsors in NASCAR. But the reason is simple, and most people know it: Alcohol is not a problem for everyone, nor does everyone who drinks become a hazard to themselves and others. Cigarettes, on the other hand, are always harmful—not only to those who smoke them, but to non-smokers as well. And contrary to Reverend Pat's assertion that alcohol causes more deaths than tobacco, The National Council of Alcohol and Drug Dependency reports that 105,000 Americans die annually from alcohol-related causes, which include everything from falls, to drunk driving, to cirrhosis of the liver. In comparison, there are more than 430,700 tobacco-related deaths in the U.S. each year.<sup>2</sup> But according to Reverend Pat, that's 430,700 willing participants, not victims—despite the fact that this figure includes 3,000 deaths a year caused by second-hand smoke.<sup>3</sup>

And in case there's any lingering questions about the effect of advertising cigarettes, and where new customers come from, teens not only respond to cigarette advertising, they are substantially more susceptible to tobacco ads than adults.<sup>4</sup> Equally alarming is research that indicates that the most popular brands of cigarettes among underage smokers are not the cheapest brands of cigarettes, but those most heavily promoted and advertised.<sup>5</sup> And in regard to television advertising alone, where the tobacco industry is somehow allowed to circumvent the 1971 congressional ban on advertising cigarettes on television, Winston has few rivals when it comes to product placement and on-air mention. During this year's running of NASCAR's annual all-star event, for example, 'Winston' was displayed or mentioned 1,251 times during the four hour, prime-time broadcast.<sup>6</sup> When you subtract the hour's worth of commercial breaks, that amounts to 7 times per minute, or once every 9 seconds.

Interestingly enough, Jeff Gordon, one of the most recognizable figures in NASCAR, and hero to millions of young fans, was the only driver to personally thank "RJ Reynolds' Winston brand" prior to the start of the all-star race.<sup>7</sup> This is the same Jeff Gordon who has often used his time before the cameras to "give God the glory" for his success.<sup>8</sup> That may sound like an admirable gesture to some, but God isn't the one signing the million dollar checks for winning The Winston Cup, The Winston No-Bull Million, or The Winston All-Star Race.



But the issue isn't how much money a born-again Christian makes, or even what he does with it. The issue is where that money comes from; and from an ethical perspective, there is little difference between a Christian collecting huge sums of money from the tobacco industry, and a pimp collecting profits from a string of prostitutes spreading the HIV virus.

Some will argue that Jeff Gordon and other born-again Christians in NASCAR donate to charitable causes—especially ones that treat and care for cancer patients.

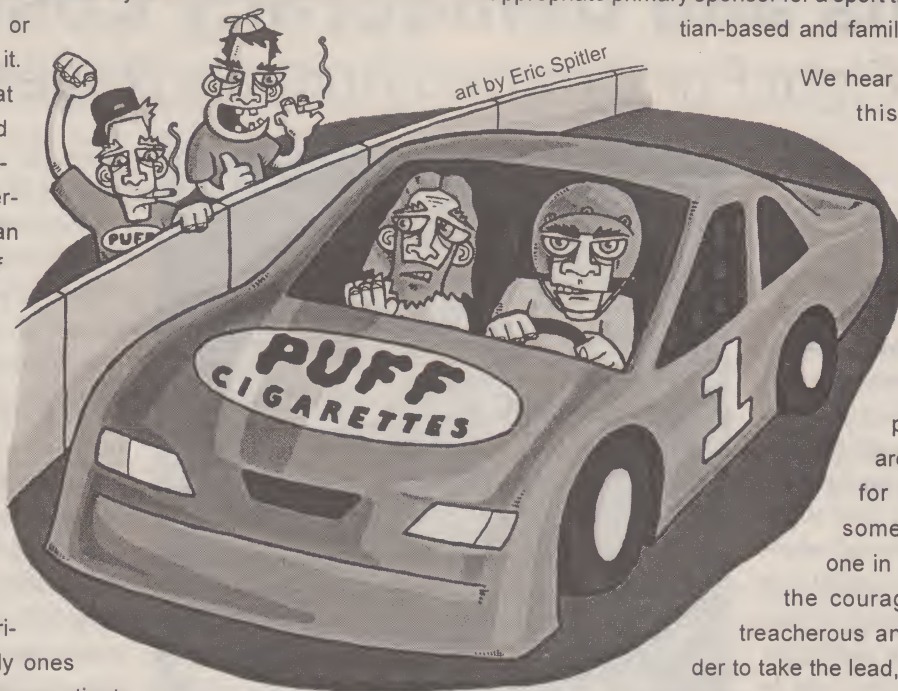
Since the only cancers that are 100% preventable are those caused by tobacco products<sup>9</sup>, wouldn't it be more effective to stop promoting tobacco products in the first place? If you want to prevent a forest fire, you don't start with buying a fire truck, you start by stopping those lighting the matches.

Despite the selective moral principles and relaxed ethics of NASCAR's born-again Christians, Reverend Pat prefers to be more concerned about Kevin Triplett ordering 'Jesus' off the hood of a Craftsman Series race truck. But there is a solution to this concern: If the Christians in NASCAR could speak through their actions, or distinguished from anyone else in the pursuit of fame and fortune, they wouldn't need a Jesus decal to identify themselves.

Unfortunately, nowhere else is indolence more lucrative than in the born-again saturated world of NASCAR. When the federal and state governments, the World Health Organization, medical community, parents, teachers, and other faith-based organizations are doing all they can to be part of the solution to the smoking-related cancer epidemic in this country, the born-again Christians in NASCAR remain part of the problem by choosing to be high-paid pitchmen for the tobacco industry. Apparently, it's just too unreasonable to expect any or all of the professed born-again Christians in NASCAR to sit down with Kevin Triplett and explain that they no longer feel comfortable sharing in the profits derived from a product wrapped in the warning: "Smoking causes lung cancer, heart disease, and emphysema."

NASCAR is currently the second most watched sport in America, and its popularity continues to grow at an astonishing rate. There's the new TV package, expanded markets, and increased ratings—all of which leads to billions of dollars worth of exposure to corporate sponsors.<sup>10</sup> How difficult could it be to entice another, more

appropriate primary sponsor for a sport that prides itself as Christian-based and family-orientated?



We hear a lot about 'courage' in this sport—courage that compels a driver to put a race car in sometimes treacherous and lonely situations in order to take the lead, to distance himself from the rest of the pack, and to win the prize. And those drivers are handsomely rewarded for that courage. Maybe someday there'll be someone in NASCAR who will have the courage to put himself in a treacherous and lonely position in order to take the lead, and to distance himself from the tobacco companies and their money. Who

knows what might happen? One widely quoted leader went as far as to say that such courage would be rewarded with treasures in heaven. ❧

#### Sources:

- <sup>1</sup> CNN.com, June 2002
- <sup>2</sup> *Journal of American Medical Association*, 2000; 284:706-7122002; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, May 1997; and Columbia University Health Question and Answer Internet Service, 2002, [www.goaskalice.columbia.edu/0599.html](http://www.goaskalice.columbia.edu/0599.html)
- <sup>3</sup> World Health Organization, Tobacco-Free Initiative, 2002, [www5.who.int/tobacco/index.cfm](http://www5.who.int/tobacco/index.cfm)
- <sup>4</sup> "The Last Straw? Cigarette Advertising and Realized Market Shares Among Youth and Adults," *Journal of Marketing*, Vol. 60, No. 2; and B&T Marketing & Media, 5/29/02, [www.bandt.com.au/articles/3b/0c00a03b.asp](http://www.bandt.com.au/articles/3b/0c00a03b.asp)
- <sup>5</sup> Centers for Disease Control, "Changes in the Cigarette Brand Preference of Adolescent Smokers, U.S. 1989-1993," *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*, August 1994
- <sup>6</sup> A conservative count performed by the author
- <sup>7</sup> Fox/FX live telecast of The Winston, 5/18/02
- <sup>8</sup> CBS live telecast of The Daytona 500, 2/16/97
- <sup>9</sup> World Health Organization, Tobacco-Free Initiative, 2002, [www5.who.int/tobacco/index.cfm](http://www5.who.int/tobacco/index.cfm)
- <sup>10</sup> Joyce Julius & Associates, June 2002, [www.joycejulius.com](http://www.joycejulius.com)



# Animals and Democracy Lose Out: The Fight For Downed Animals Rages On

By Gene Bauston

At stockyards and auctions across the United States, cows, pigs, and other farm animals too sick even to stand are being transported and marketed, causing intolerable animal suffering. They are called "downed animals", because they cannot stand up. Unable to walk to food or water troughs, these animals commonly lay for hours or days without receiving food or water. They are denied necessary veterinary care and often die of neglect. It is impossible to move downed animals humanely, and they are commonly dragged with chains on their way to slaughter.

Beginning in 1992, Farm Sanctuary has worked to prohibit the inhumane marketing of downed animals by lobbying to advance the Downed Animal Protection Act in Washington, DC. This legislation (H.R. 1421 in the House of Representatives and S. 267 in the Senate) requires that these suffering animals be humanely euthanized.

Consumers are appalled to learn that downed animals are marketed and slaughtered for human food, and 8 in 10 oppose the practice according to a Zogby poll. Even farmers and stockyard owners are critical of the inhumane and irresponsible marketing of downed livestock, but despite this, the Downed Animal Protection Act has failed to move forward in Washington, DC. Year after year it has remained bottled up by the agribusiness-friendly agriculture committee, despite widespread support and 165 cosponsors in Congress.

During deliberations of the recent Farm Bill, animal advocates made a major breakthrough when downed animal protection legislation was included in both the House and Senate versions of the Farm Bill. Proponents of this measure, Congressman Gary Ackerman (D-NY) and Congressman Amo Houghton (R-NY), offered the downed animal protection amendment during debate of the Farm Bill on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives. Mr. Ackerman had to wait for ten hours before managers of the floor debate, agriculture committee leaders Charles Stenholm (D-TX) and Larry Combest (R-TX), allowed him to present the amendment. During this ten hour wait, agribusiness-friendly legislators



attempted unsuccessfully to discourage Mr. Ackerman from introducing the downed animal amendment. Finally, around midnight, Mr. Ackerman was able to address the House, and he described the horrific treatment that downers endure:

"A sick cow, unable to stand, is pulled off a truck by a tractor with a chain, then falls 4 feet to the ground at a stockyard. A frail day-old calf is dragged through an auction ring by a rope tied to its back leg while another calf, nearly comatose, is left in a corner dying. These are downed animals. The transport and marketing of these incapacitated animals creates tremendous human health concerns as well as humane concerns. These animals, known as downers, suffer beyond belief as they are kicked, dragged, and prodded with electric shocks in an effort to move them at auctions and intermediate markets en route to slaughter. . . It is practically impossible to move these animals humanely, so they are commonly dragged with chains and pushed around with tractors and fork lifts."

Despite the late hour, several other House members, including Connie Morella (R-MD), Carolyn Maloney (D-NY), Sue Kelly (R-NY) and Sam Farr (D-CA), remained in the chamber to speak out in support of the downed animal amendment to the Farm Bill. Upon seeing the strong support for this measure, Charles Stenholm and Larry Combest did not put up a fight, and the measure passed. When finally given the opportunity to vote on this legislation, House members approved it, and downed animal protection became part of the House Farm Bill. Meanwhile, thanks largely to the hard work of Senator Patrick Leahy (D-VT), an almost identical downed animal provision was successfully included in the Senate Farm Bill.

Both Farm bills passed their respective Houses, and a conference committee was convened to reconcile differences between the two bills. Under House and Senate rules, the conference committee is only allowed to address areas of a bill where the House and Senate disagree. Downed animal protection was *not* an area of disagreement as both the House and Senate bills con-



tained nearly identical language on this point. But, inexplicably, the provision requiring downed animals to be humanely euthanized was removed by members of the conference committee and replaced with language calling for the USDA to submit a report on the downed animal issue to Congress.

The conference committee, meeting behind closed doors and unaccountable to the democratic process, blatantly undermined the clearly expressed will of both the House and Senate. This betrayal was led by Congressmen Larry Combest (R-TX) and Charles Stenholm (R-TX) who had accepted the downed animal provision during public discussion on the House floor. Angered by the Texans' dirty dealings, Gary Ackerman stated, "When you give your word in New York, it means something. I think it means even more when you do it on the House floor."

Tragically, Larry Combest, Charles Stenholm, and other agribusiness-friendly legislators who make up the House Agriculture committee have thwarted efforts to pass downed animal protection legislation over the past decade. The agriculture committee, which has jurisdiction over the Downed Animal Protection Act, is controlled by corporate agribusiness interests who vehemently oppose government regulation, especially regulation about the humane treatment of animals. The result of this arrangement is that farm animals have been excluded from the federal Animal Welfare Act and other laws. Ironically, the only federal law pertaining to the humane treatment of farm animals is the Humane Slaughter Act, which excludes the majority of animals slaughtered and, when it does apply, is not properly enforced.

Just as a majority of U.S. citizens oppose blatant cruelty, a majority of U.S. Representatives and U.S. Senators oppose blatant cruelty. But unfortunately, just as a relatively small number of agribusinesses control and exploit farm animals on factory farms, a small number agriculture-friendly legislators control and undermine farm animal protection efforts in Washington, DC.

Passing the downed animal protection provision through the House and Senate was a major accomplishment. Not since the Humane Slaughter Act of the 1950s has legislation addressing farm animal welfare passed the U.S. House and the U.S. Senate. By all rights, downed animal protection legislation should have become law in 2002. But, alarmingly, even after this legislation passed both chambers of congress, a small group of legislators supportive of corporate agribusiness were able to block it in the end.

When the House discussed the final version of the Farm Bill, Congressman Ackerman took to the House floor and spoke passionately about the plight of downed animals, urging his colleagues to reject the conferees' changes to the Farm Bill. The following is an excerpt from Congressman Ackerman's remarks:

"Mr. Speaker, I reluctantly rise in opposition. After over a decade of work, I was tremendously pleased to see that my amendment to ban the marketing and movement of

downed animals at auctions and stockyards and to require that these animals be humanely euthanized was included in both the House and Senate version of the Farm Security Act. Today I am disappointed to report that this commonsense legislation to protect the safety of our Nation's food supply, and to end the suffering of downed animals was severely neutered during conference committee negotiations. The transport and marketing of these incapacitated sick or crippled animals creates tremendous human health concerns as well as humane concerns. Downers make up only one-tenth of 1 percent of the market. And not to euthanize them just because then they couldn't be marketed for human consumption, is indeed a sin. . . I want to emphasize that my downed animal amendment passed both bodies; it has 165 cosponsors..."

But despite Mr. Ackerman's heroic efforts, the deals had been made, and the Farm Bill was signed into law without the downed animal protection amendment. As a result, both animals and democracy are suffering. ❧

*Gene Bauston and his wife Lorri are the founders of Farm Sanctuary ([www.farmsanctuary.org](http://www.farmsanctuary.org)), an American, nonprofit organization dedicated to ending the exploitation of animals for food production.*

## YOU CAN HELP:

Although the downed animal provision was stripped from the Farm Bill, the Downed Animal Protection Act (H.R. 1421 and S. 267) remains alive in Congress, and we cannot give up the fight. Please urge your Congressional Representative to cosponsor H.R. 1421 and Senators to cosponsor S. 267 – use the addresses below to contact your legislators. Public involvement is critical to this effort. For more information and to see if your Representative and Senators are cosponsors, please check out: [www.nodowners.org](http://www.nodowners.org).

<b>Representative</b> _____	<b>Senator</b> _____
U.S. House of Representatives	U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20515	Washington, DC 20510

or Call the Capitol Switchboard 202-225-3121

## Vegan Shopping Made EASY!

Cosmetics		Apparel	Gift Baskets
			Candles
		<b>VEGAN</b>	First Aid
		<b>VEGAN</b>	Food & More!
			Gift Registry
			Recipes
			Events Board
			Vegan Information

**[www.DifferentDaisy.com](http://www.DifferentDaisy.com)**  
740.820.3146



# Subscribe to IMPACT press

Receive IMPACT in your mailbox for less than \$1.67 per issue. Subscribe for six months and receive three issues for \$5 US (\$8 Canada/Mexico; \$14 elsewhere)! You can also subscribe for one year (six issues) for only \$10 (\$16 Canada/Mexico; \$28 elsewhere). Trust us, we're not making crap on this deal, but we wanna make you happy. So fill out the form below, send it in and we'll hook you up!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Yes or No: Join email list? \_\_\_\_\_ Want Sticker? \_\_\_\_\_

Have subscription start with issue # \_\_\_\_\_

Comments about IMPACT \_\_\_\_\_

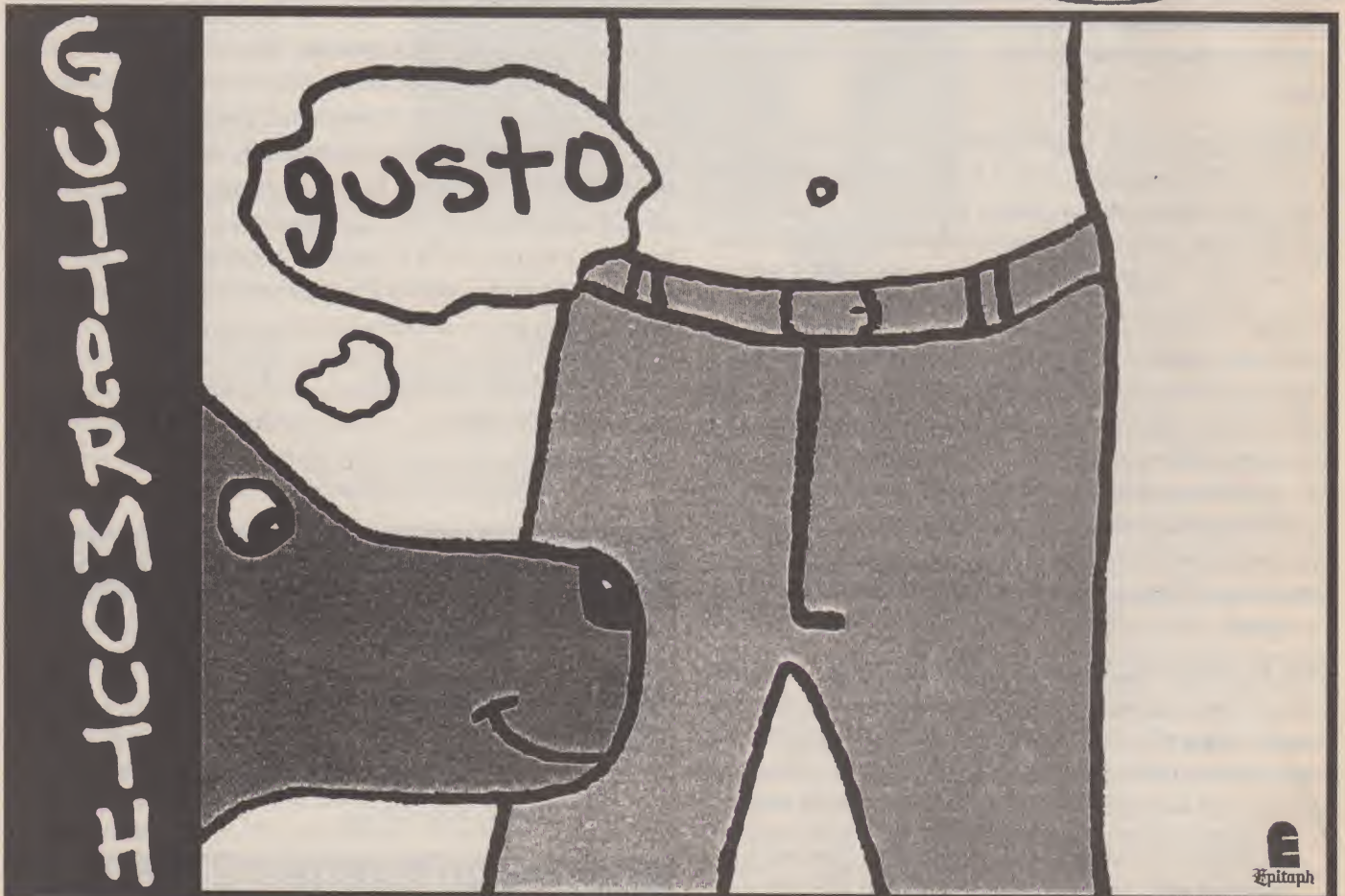
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

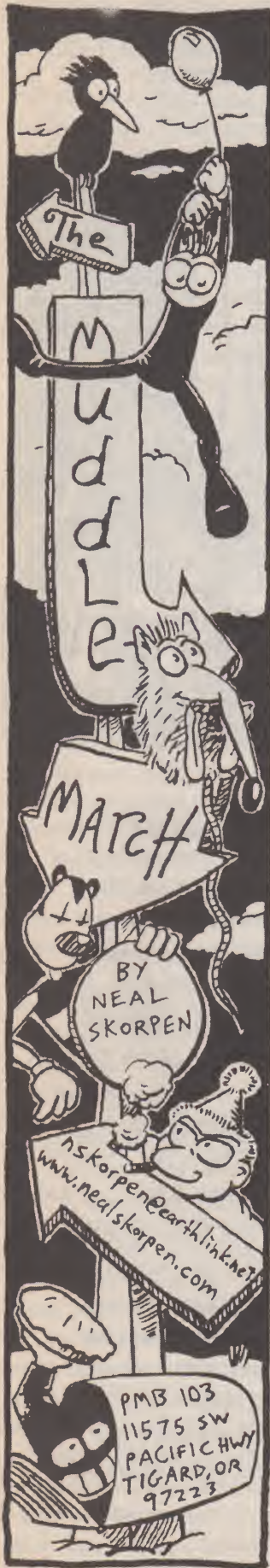
Every subscription gets a free vinyl sticker (*while supplies last*). Tell us what issue you want the subscription to begin with. Send checks/money order to: IMPACT press c/o Subscriptions, PMB 361, 10151 University Blvd., Orlando, FL 32817



espiter@hotmail.com



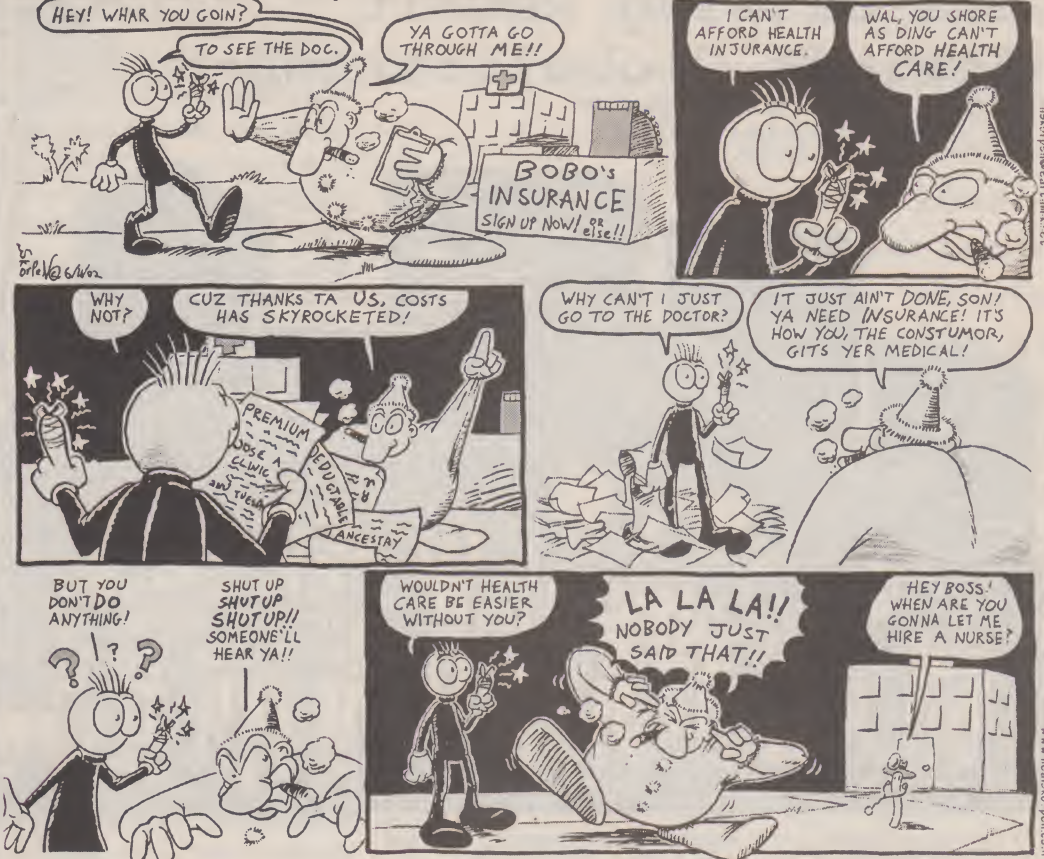




## the MUDDLEmarch

BY NEAL SKORPEN

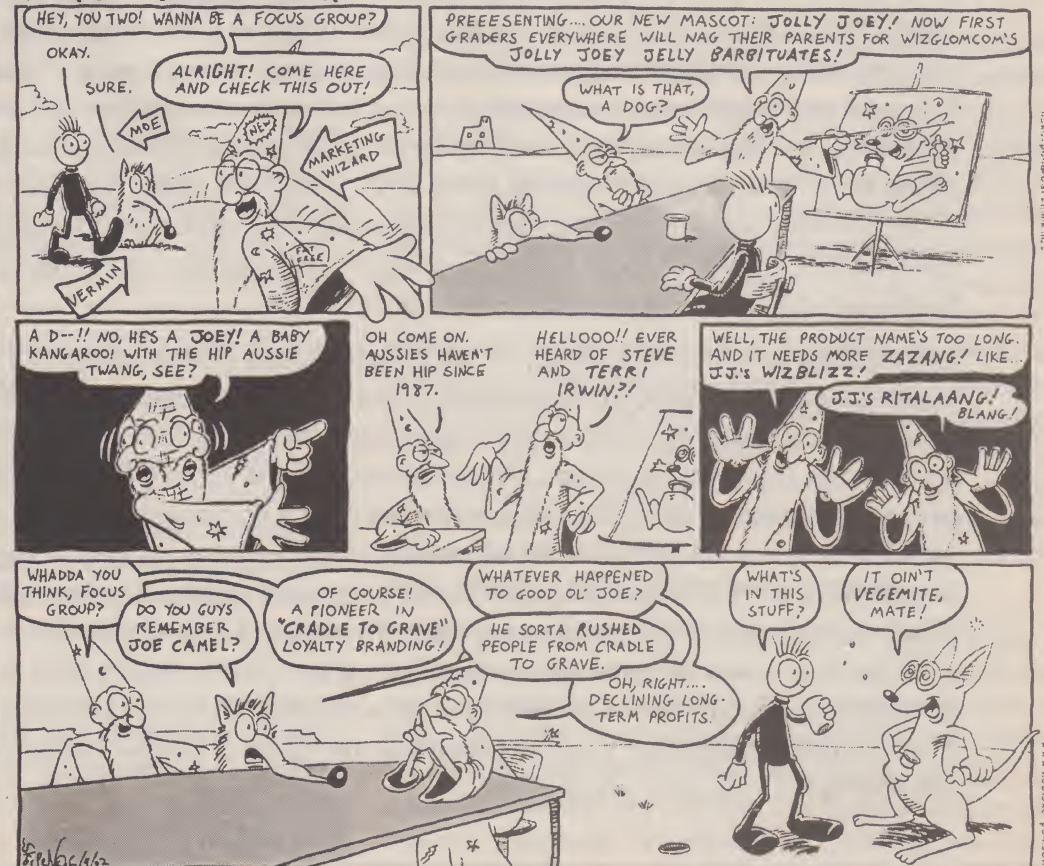
PMB 103 11575 SW PACIFIC HWY TIGARD, OR 97223



## the MUDDLEmarch

BY NEAL SKORPEN

PMB 103 11575 SW PACIFIC HWY TIGARD, OR 97223





# The Growing Revolt Against Globalization

by David Michael Smith



When government officials from more than one hundred countries arrived in Seattle for a World Trade Organization conference in late November 1999, they found more than luxury hotel rooms, gourmet meals, and Courvoisier cognac waiting for them. In the streets of Seattle, more than fifty thousand people gathered to protest against the loss of decent-paying jobs, proliferation of sweatshop labor, growing poverty and social inequality, mounting environmental devastation, and diminution of national sovereignty resulting from the W.T.O.'s "free trade" policies. Activists from labor, environmental, human rights, and radical organizations joined together for several days of demonstrations that frightened local corporate moguls and politicians more than any event since the Seattle general strike and workers' uprising of 1919.

The massive turnout and militancy of the demonstrators overwhelmed W.T.O. officials and the Seattle police. Many conference delegates found it physically impossible to attend their scheduled meetings, and speeches by Secretary of State Madeline Albright and other U.S. government leaders had to be canceled. As Stuart Laidlaw later noted in the *Toronto Star* ("Seattle Set New Agenda on Trade," November 27, 2000), "The protesters did not shut down the W.T.O., but kept enough of it from running smoothly to have the same effect." Although the overwhelming majority of demonstrators were entirely nonviolent, small bands of activists smashed store windows, set fires in the streets, and spray-painted graffiti on buildings. The Mayor declared a civil emergency and imposed a curfew. The police used tear gas, pepper spray, and rubber bullets against protesters and bystanders alike. Hundreds of demonstrators were arrested, and dozens were injured in the process. In the months that followed, it became clear that the "Battle of Seattle" had signaled a new stage in the growing revolt against globalization.



## What Are They Protesting About?

Globalization may not be a household word, but it has become a prominent term in the lexicon of transnational corporations, government officials, international financial institutions, academics, and activists during the past two decades. The International Monetary Fund defines globalization as "a historical process" involving "the increasing integration of economies around the world, particularly through trade and financial flows" ("Globalization: Threat or Opportunity?" January 2002). In practice, this has meant that the governments of the advanced capitalist countries, along with the I.M.F., the World Bank, and the W.T.O., have increasingly sought to force other nations to adopt market economies, privatize public companies and resources, abandon labor and environmental regulations, reduce social services, and embrace "free trade" and the free movement of transnational capital. As William Pfaff points out ("The West's Globalization Drive is Proving a Massive Failure," *International Herald Tribune*, September 29, 2000), globalization is "the aggressive program for the imposition of Western norms of national economic management, economic deregulation and market opening, and facilitating takeovers of indigenous industries and agriculture by multinational companies."

Predictably, the international financial institutions and other *establishment* "experts" have enthusiastically endorsed the expansion of unbridled capitalism throughout the world. I.M.F. officials argue, "Globalization offers extensive opportunities for truly worldwide development." From their perspective, the increasing global integration of national economies holds great promise because "Markets promote efficiency through competition and the division of labor...." Still, the I.M.F. concedes, "Markets do not necessarily ensure that the benefits of increased efficiency are shared by all." In his well-known book, *The Lexus and the Olive Tree* (2000), author and *New York Times* columnist Thomas L. Friedman insists, "Globalization has fostered a flowering of both wealth and technological innovation the likes of which the world has never before seen." Although Friedman admits that this historical process has produced substantial "disruption and dislocation," he appears primarily interested in finding ways to manage the growing "backlash" against globalization.

A much more critical perspective on globalization is provided by John Cavanagh and the other authors of a report by the Alternatives Committee of the International Forum on Globalization ("A Better World is Possible: Alternatives to Economic Globalization," Spring 2002). For Cavanagh, et al, "corporate-led globalization" and the "unrestricted movement of capital" generates enormous profits for transnational corporations but produces significant economic, social, and political harms for the majority of nations and peoples. This report finds that global well-being is threatened—not fostered—by the conversion of national economies to export-oriented production, the increasing concentration of corporate wealth, and the decreasing regulation of corporate behavior. The report also strongly criticizes the "undermining" of national social

The W.T.O.'s  
growing insistence  
on limiting  
economic regulation  
and enforcing  
"market access  
rules" could limit  
the ability of the  
U.S. government to  
regulate toxic  
wastes, reduce air  
and water  
pollution, and  
manage natural  
resources.

and environmental programs, the "privatization and commodification" of public services, the erosion of "traditional powers and policies of democratic nation-states and local communities," the "unrestricted exploitation of the planet's resources," the promotion of "unbridled consumerism," and "global cultural homogenization."

Mark Weisbrot, Co-Director of the Center for Economic and Policy Research, challenges the claim that globalization has produced economic progress for most countries. Drawing on extensive research that he and colleagues at the C.E.P.R. have done, Weisbrot points out, "The past twenty years have been an abject failure for most countries." ("The Mirage of Progress," *The American Prospect*, January 1, 2002). As Weisbrot and his colleagues document, the overwhelming majority of countries have actually experienced significant declines in economic growth rates; increased child mortality; and reduced progress in life expectancy as well as public spending on education (Mark Weisbrot, et al., "The Scorecard on Globalization, 1980-2000: Twenty Years of Diminished Progress," July 11, 2001). In addition, as Cavanagh and his coauthors note, "The undermining of small-scale, diversified, self-reliant, community-based agricultural systems, and their replacement by corporate-run, export-oriented monocultures" is "a major contributing factor to global environmental devastation."

Signally, the deleterious effects of globalization are not limited to the developing countries. As economist Robert Scott has concluded in a study for the Economic Policy Institute ("N.A.F.T.A. at Seven," April 2001), the North American Free Trade Agreement has resulted in the loss of approximately 766,000 actual and potential U.S. manufacturing jobs and "contributed to rising income inequality, suppressed real wages for production workers, weak-



ened collective bargaining powers and ability to organize unions, and reduced fringe benefits." In another E.P.I. study ("Fast Track to Lost Jobs," October 2001), Scott has found that the combination of N.A.F.T.A. and other "free trade" policies has resulted in the loss of approximately three million actual and potential U.S. jobs, and contributed to massive trade deficits. Moreover, U.S. employers are exerting growing pressure on employees to work harder, accept smaller increases in pay and benefits, and forego improvements in working conditions—all in the name of "being competitive" in an increasingly globalized economy.

## **Globalization vs. The Environment**

Increasingly, Americans are discovering that globalization is also undermining environmental protection and national sovereignty. In 1991, the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade ruled that a U.S. law designed to protect dolphins from encirclement and drowning in tuna nets was an illegal barrier to trade. Congress then significantly weakened this law to comply with the G.A.T.T. ruling. In 1996, the W.T.O. ruled against a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regulation governing the cleanliness of gasoline. The Clinton Administration agreed to abide by the W.T.O. decision. In 1998, the W.T.O. ruled against a U.S. law requiring turtle-excluding devices on boats selling shrimp to this country. The U.S. State Department then issued new rules that significantly weakened protection for sea turtles. As the Sierra Club explains on its website, the W.T.O.'s growing insistence on limiting economic regulation and enforcing "market access rules" could limit the ability of the

**The Zapatista  
movement of  
Southern Mexico has  
become famous for  
its advocacy of the  
rights of  
indigenous peoples,  
but it has  
consistently held  
that neo-liberal  
economic policies  
are just as  
dangerous as  
institutionalized  
racism.**

U.S. government to regulate toxic wastes, reduce air and water pollution, and manage natural resources.

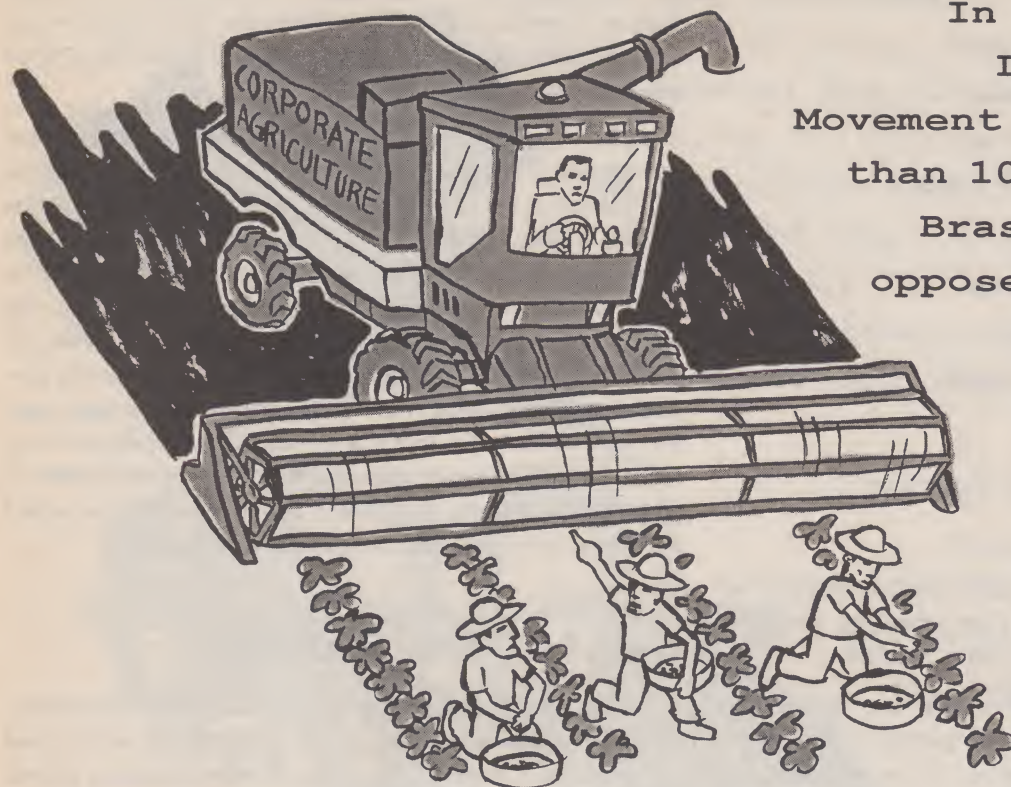
As Marc Cooper noted in the *L.A. Weekly* ("Less Bank—More World: First Seattle, Then A16," April 20, 2000), the "awesome student-worker-environmentalist alliance—that marriage of Teamsters and Turtles"—helped make the "Battle of Seattle" in late 1999 a turning point in U.S. opposition to globalization. But as Jessica Woodroffe and Mark Ellis-Jones emphasize ("States of Unrest: A World Development Movement Report," January 2001), "This new movement...is just the tip of the iceberg. In the global south, a far deeper and wide-ranging movement has been developing for years." The Zapatista movement of Southern Mexico has become famous for its advocacy of the rights of indigenous peoples, but it has consistently held that neo-liberal economic policies are just as dangerous as institutionalized racism. As Katherine Ainger reported in the *New Internationalist* ("To Open a Crack in History," September 2001), it is no coincidence that the Zapatistas launched their rebellion in Chiapas on January 1, 1994. This was the same day that N.A.F.T.A. went into effect, outlawing the indigenous system of collective land ownership in Mexico. Since then, the Zapatistas have drawn thousands of people from around the world to their periodic "Intercontinental Encuentros [Encounters] for Humanity and against Neoliberalism."

## **Neoliberalism and Globalization**

Throughout the latter half of the 1990s, large numbers of workers, farmers, and other people protested against neoliberalism and globalization in Asia, Latin America, and Africa. In 1996, more than 130,000 Filipino laborers demonstrated against the Asian Pacific Economic Community meeting in Manila. In 1997 and 1998, scores of thousands of rural poor people in Thailand protested against the destruction of agricultural society and the growing impoverishment resulting from Western-style economic reforms. In 1998, over 200,000 Indian farmers took to the streets of Hyderabad to protest the W.T.O. As Katherine Ainger has noted, when W.T.O. leader Mike Moore visited India two years later, "He joked rather uncomfortably that in no other place on Earth had so many effigies of him been burned." In May 1998, tens of thousands of South Korean union members participated in a general strike and bitterly criticized the "global rule of capital."

In 1996, the Rural Landless Workers Movement turned out more than 100,000 people in Brasilia, Brazil to oppose the neoliberal "modernization" of agriculture under the direction of local agribusiness and foreign capitalists. During the past seventeen years, this movement has used both legal tactics and mass direct action to bring about grass-roots land reform, helping more than two hundred and fifty thousand families occupy and win land titles to more than fifteen million acres of land. In late 1999 and early 2000, the indigenous people of Ecuador launched a mass popular movement against the I.M.F.-imposed "dollarization" of their





In 1996, the Rural Landless Workers Movement turned out more than 100,000 people in Brasilia, Brazil to oppose the neoliberal "modernization" of agriculture under the direction of local agribusiness and foreign capitalists.

country and forced the resignation of their president. At the same time, an alliance of labor, human rights, and community activists organized a general strike in Cochabamba, Bolivia and successfully forced the government to reverse the privatization of the city's water system mandated by the World Bank and the I.M.F.

By 1999-2000, hundreds of thousands of people in Nigeria were conducting marches and strikes across the country to oppose the I.M.F.'s demands for privatization of public enterprises, reduced government spending on schools and hospitals, and higher fuel prices. As the millennium ended, mass demonstrations against "structural reforms" demanded by the inter-national financial institutions were mounting in Kenya, Malawi, South Africa, Tanzania, and Zambia. As South African anti-globalization activist Trevor Ngwane explains (Ferial Haffajee, "From Seattle to Soweto," *New Internationalist*, September 2001), "We were able to get rid of the apartheid regime. But now our freedom is coming to nought because of neoliberal policies... which undermine our freedom."

## Worldwide Protests

One of the first major European mass demonstrations against globalization occurred in May 1998, when more than seventy thousand people protested against the Group of Eight meeting in Birmingham, England. In June 1999, protests were held in several cities in Europe and North America to coincide with the G8 Economic Summit in Cologne, Germany. Tens of thousands of demonstrators took to the streets, most notably in London. The fact that

the "Battle of Seattle" in late 1999 marked a new stage in the growing revolt against globalization has been noted by opponents as well as friends of this movement. In January 2000, a corporate lobbying firm in Washington, D.C. sent its clients a memorandum warning of "the potential ability of the emerging coalition of these groups to seriously impact broader, longer-term corporate interests" ("Leaked Memo: 'Guide to the Seattle Meltdown,'" *Common Dreams News Center*, [www.commondreams.org](http://www.commondreams.org), March 10, 2000). In August 2000, the Canadian Security Intelligence Service acknowledged, "Opposition to corporate globalization has been growing for several years" and warned that the failure of the international financial institutions to implement reforms "may well serve to mobilize thousand more protesters and trigger a wave of anger and outrage at subsequent events." ("Report#2000/08: Anti-Globalization—A Spreading Phenomenon," August 22, 2000)

The significant growth of the anti-globalization movement since Seattle certainly con-firms this prediction. In mid-April 2000, just a few months after the victorious mass protests in Ecuador and Bolivia, more than 30,000 people demonstrated against the annual meeting of the World Bank and International Monetary Fund in Washington, D.C. As Marc Cooper reported at the time, demonstrators successfully blockaded almost twenty major intersections surrounding the World Bank and I.M.F. buildings. The delegates to the conference were able to attend their scheduled meetings only because they had been awakened at 4:30 a.m., bused to the conference under armed guard, and led through underground tunnels to their meeting rooms. As in Seattle, the overwhelming majority of demonstrators were entirely nonviolent, though hundreds of activ-



**In January 2001, the anti-globalization movement reached another milestone when activists from more than one hundred countries gathered at the first World Social Forum in Porto Alegre, Brazil.**

ists physically resisted the efforts by D.C. police to establish perimeters at various points in the city. Over a three-day period, the police arrested more than thirteen hundred protesters.

As Jessica Woodroffe and Mark Ellis-Jones have observed, on June 9, 2000, more than seven million Argentine workers participated in a one-day general strike against I.M.F.-imposed reforms. During the next few months, hundreds of thousands of people took part in protests against various I.M.F.-prescribed "Structural Adjustments" in Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Honduras, Nigeria, and Paraguay. In early September 2000, several thousand people protested against the Asia-Pacific Summit of the World Economic Forum in Melbourne, Australia. Street battles between militant workers and heavily armed police went on for three days, and W.E.F. organizers were forced to fly delegates in and out by helicopter. At the end of September, more than twenty thousand people demonstrated against the meeting of the World Bank and I.M.F. in Prague, Czech Republic. Protesters repeatedly clashed with police, and the ensuing turmoil led World Bank and I.M.F. officials to hastily end the conference twenty-four hours before its scheduled conclusion. In October 2000, more than twenty thousand workers and students protested against the meeting of Asian and European Union economic ministers in Seoul, South Korea.

In January 2001, the anti-globalization movement reached another milestone when activists from more than one hundred countries gathered at the first World Social Forum in Porto Alegre, Brazil. This historic gathering aimed to provide a progressive alternative to the business-dominated World Economic Forum, then meeting in Davos, Switzerland. More than twenty thousand people from labor unions, environmental groups, non-governmental organizations, social movements, and Leftist parties around the world attended the Porto Alegre conference. As Mario Osava reported ("World Social Forum: Work Begins on a World of Solidarity," *Inter Press Service*, [www.ipsnews.org](http://www.ipsnews.org), January 26, 2001), participants were committed to ending "corporate-led globalization" and seeking "a different kind of globalization" which would provide for human needs and ensure sustainable human development. After

six days of discussion and debate, representatives of one hundred and forty-four organizations signed the "Porto Alegre Appeal for Mobilization," which called on the peoples of the world to struggle against neoliberalism and globalization.

Three months later, on April 20-22, 2001, more than 60,000 workers, retirees, and students participated in demonstrations against the "Summit of the Americas" in Quebec City, Canada. While the leaders of thirty-four governments gathered to negotiate a "Free Trade Area of the Americas," thousands of people attended forums, rallies, and marches in order to voice their opposition. The largest protest event was a peaceful march by union activists, but thousands of people joined in other marches that came into confrontation with the police. Hundreds of activists tried to bring down the metal-and-concrete fence, which the police had set up to protect the visiting heads of state. Police tear gas injured dozens of protesters, and plastic bullets fired by police seriously wounded one young man. More than 200 people were arrested.

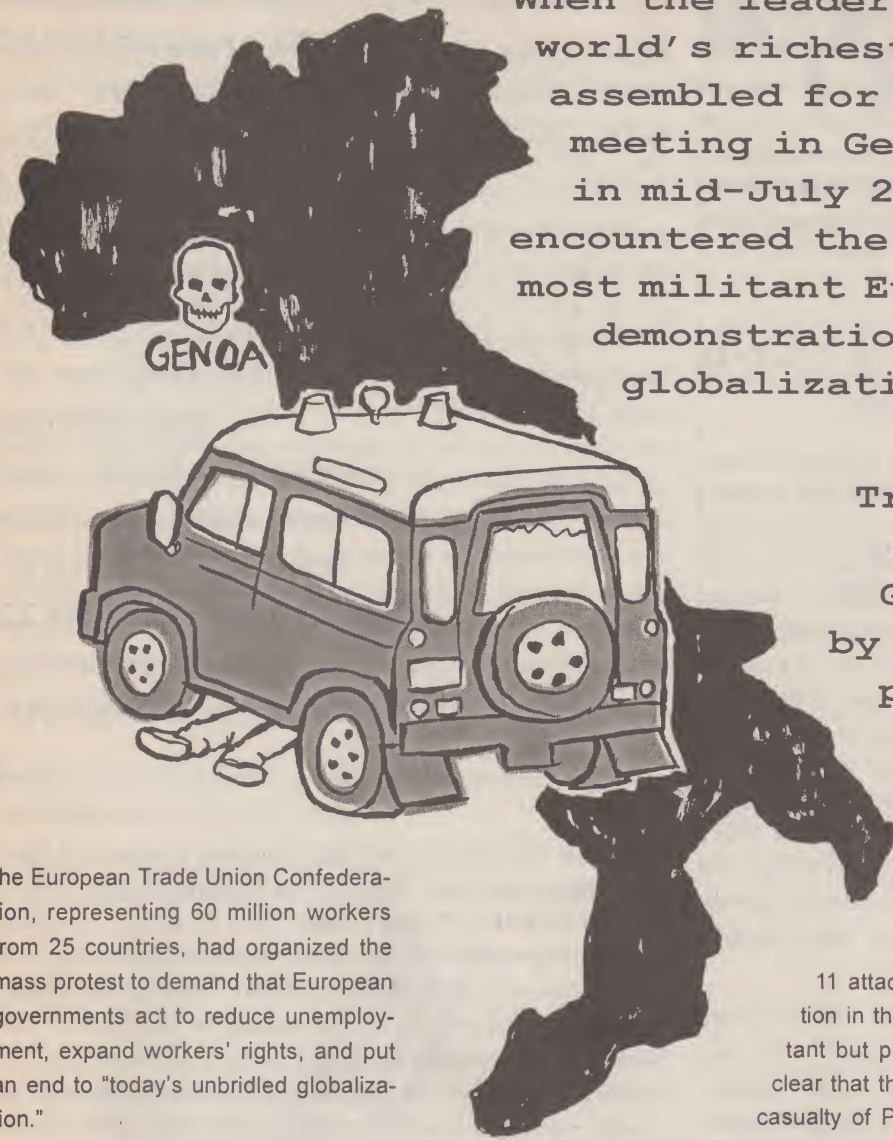
## **Death in Genoa**

When the leaders of the world's richest countries assembled for the G8 meeting in Genoa, Italy in mid-July 2001, they encountered the largest and most militant European demonstrations against globalization to date. More than 200,000 people, representing more than seven hundred organizations, took to the streets. As in previous demonstrations, the vast majority of protesters eschewed violence, but some activists burned cars, broke windows, looted stores, and battled with the police. Tragically, one young Italian man, Carlo Giuliani, was killed by police and over 400 people were injured. As John Nichols has observed ("One Dead, Eighty Injured in Genoa," *The Nation*, July 20, 2001), "The economic policies promoted by the [G8] leaders...are now so unpopular that gatherings must be 'protected' with deadly police violence....If the croupiers of corporate capital really believe that restructuring the global economy to limit protections for workers, the environment, and human rights represents a positive development, why must they employ deadly force to defend the meetings at which they plot their warped vision of 'progress'?"

As journalist John Vidal pointed out (*Guardian*, July 18, 2001), "The Battle for Genoa" made clear that the globalization of capital is increasingly "being mirrored by the globalization of protest." As Vidal concluded, "For the first time in a generation, the international political and economic condition is in the dock. Moreover, the protesters are unlikely to go away, their confidence is growing rather than waning, their agendas are merging, the protests are spreading and drawing in all ages and concerns." Four months later, large protests against the W.T.O. were held in more than thirty countries. On November 20, thousands of people participated in militant protests against the World Bank and the I.M.F. in Ottawa, Canada. The following month, more than 80,000 people demonstrated against a meeting of European Union leaders in Brussels, Belgium. As Constance Brand reported ("Eighty Thousand Peacefully Protest E.U. Summit," *Associated Press*, December 13, 2001),



When the leaders of the world's richest countries assembled for the G8 meeting in Genoa, Italy in mid-July 2001, they encountered the largest and most militant European demonstrations against globalization to date.



Tragically, one young Italian man, Carlo Giuliani, was killed by police and over 400 people were injured.

the European Trade Union Confederation, representing 60 million workers from 25 countries, had organized the mass protest to demand that European governments act to reduce unemployment, expand workers' rights, and put an end to "today's unbridled globalization."

## Protests Rage On

While protesters were taking to the streets in Brussels, hundreds of thousands of workers and young people in Argentina were demonstrating against the I.M.F.-imposed government austerity measures that had resulted in mass unemployment, declining real wages, and widespread poverty. Despite the deaths of twenty-one protesters at the hands of police and the government's declaration of a state of siege, the demonstrations grew larger and more militant. After the Argentine General Workers Confederation called a general strike and spontaneous protests and food riots erupted across the country, President Fernando de la Rúa resigned and fled the country. Although the new President, Eduardo Duhalde, promised to reject the economic demands of the international financial institutions, he reneged on this pledge within a few months. Not surprisingly, another giant wave of protests soon erupted in Argentina's major cities.

In early February 2002, more than ten thousand people partici-

pated in protests against the World Economic Forum in New York City. Although the continuing trauma caused by the September 11 attacks had led some activists to forego participation in these protests, the respectable turnout and militant but peaceful conduct of the demonstrations made clear that the anti-globalization movement would not be a casualty of President Bush's so-called "War on Terrorism." As Liza Featherstone pointed out in *The Nation* ("A Recovered Movement," February 4, 2002), these demonstrations proved that, in the aftermath of the September 11 tragedy, "The movement has recovered not only its ability to organize a major march but its optimistic spirit as well." Moreover, as Featherstone observed, the protesters in New York City succeeded in emphasizing "the themes that have always preoccupied this global movement: worldwide economic inequality, the unchecked power of corporations, and the dearth of political democracy."

## World Social Forum 2002

At the same time, several thousand miles away, over 50,000 people from more than 120 countries were attending the second annual World Social Forum in Porto Alegre, Brazil. The theme of the conference was "Another World is Possible." In plenary sessions, workshops, and informal meetings, participants voiced support for the abolition of the W.T.O., the World Bank, and the I.M.F. They also discussed the development of new forms of international solidarity and cooperation that could effectively meet the material



and social needs of humanity and ensure sustainable development. Activists expressed divergent views on whether "the globalization of justice" could ever be brought about without a direct assault on international capitalism as a system. But there was unanimity on the imperative need for the peoples of the world to put the brakes on "corporate-led globalization." Although the second annual W.S.F. was not highly publicized in the U.S., it was regarded as a major international event by millions of people throughout the world.

## Anti-Globalization Movement Growing

The revolt against globalization has continued to grow in recent months. On March 16, 2002, more than 300,000 people marched in Barcelona, Spain to protest against a summit of European Union leaders. The banner at the front of the Barcelona march read: "Against a Europe of Capital—Another World is Possible!" On April 20, about 100,000 people demonstrated against U.S. foreign policy in Washington, D.C. Although protesters' support for the Palestinian "intifada" was the most highly publicized aspect of the event, this author was present and can attest to a sea of banners and signs opposing globalization. On May 19, nearly 200,000 people demonstrated against neoliberal economics at a conference of European and Latin American government leaders in Madrid, Spain. On June 8, about 50,000 people marched outside the World Food Summit in Rome, Italy to demand that the international financial institutions and the United Nations do more to help end world hunger.

On June 14, nationwide protests against the I.M.F.-imposed privatization of public electricity companies erupted in Peru. Two days later, President Alejandro Toledo declared a state of emergency and deployed soldiers to suppress the demonstrations. One student was killed, and hundreds were injured. When the mass mobilization of opposition continued to grow, the President backed down and suspended the sale of the electricity companies. On June 22, more than 150,000 people protested against the European Union's neoliberal economic policies in Seville, Spain. In late June, new demonstrations against the I.M.F.-imposed government austerity measures broke out in Argentina. The protests became even larger after Buenos Aires police officers killed two demonstrators in cold blood. Although the governor of Buenos Aires State ordered the arrests of these police officers, increasingly large crowds of protesters are now demanding food, social services, and the resignation of President Duhalde.

Hoping to avoid a repeat of the gigantic protests in Genoa last year, the G8 leaders met this June in the isolated village of Kananaskis, Canada. Although its remote location and a thirteen-mile-wide security cordon made a large demonstration there impossible, several thousand dedicated activists held peaceful protests in Calgary, Toronto, and Ottawa. To protest corporate profiteering through the use of sweatshop labor, two-dozen demonstrators

Although the transnational corporations, the G8 leaders, and the international financial institutions remain undeterred in their objective of worldwide exploitation and domination, the revolt against globalization will undoubtedly continue to grow.

stripped in front of a Calvary Gap store and chanted, "I'd rather wear nothing than wear The Gap." As Reuters reported ("Anti-G8 Activists Bare All in Cheeky Protest," June 25, 2002), "One line of activists dropped their pants to reveal the words 'Boycott Gap,' with one letter on each cheek of their posteriors." Although the G8 leaders may have enjoyed the relative quietude in Kananaskis, World Bank and I.M.F. officials will not be so fortunate when their next meeting convenes in Washington, D.C. Activists in the U.S. are already planning militant protests from September 28 to October 4, and tens of thousands of people are expected to participate.

## The End of History?

Ten years ago, Francis Fukuyama argued in his famous book, The End of History and the Last Man (1992), that there was an emerging global consensus in favor of capitalism. Fukuyama claimed that the peoples of the world would increasingly embrace private ownership of the means of production, market-oriented production and exchange, and strict limits on economic regulation and government services as the surest path to prosperity for all. But during the past decade, the development of the international movement against globalization has proved Fukuyama wrong. From Bangkok to Barcelona, from Prague to Porto Alegre, from Seattle to Seoul, millions of people have made clear that they will not accept the globalization of capital. The growth of the popular movement for "the globalization of justice" can rightly be said to mark "the end of the 'end of history'" (Naomi Klein, "World Social Forum: A Fete



for the End of the 'End of History,'" *The Nation*, March 19, 2001).

Although the transnational corporations, the G8 leaders, and the international financial institutions remain undeterred in their objective of worldwide exploitation and domination, the revolt against globalization will undoubtedly continue to grow. Over time, it will become increasingly clear "it is not enough to protest the effects of international capitalism or to demand the reform of its most extreme outrages. The answer is not 'fair trade,' and certainly not protectionism, but the uprooting of a system which poisons the earth, starves hundreds of millions of people, and condemns billions more to lives of brutal poverty" (Editors, "Imperialist World Order: Misery for Profit," *1917*, February 2001). Of course, some analysts might object that a humane and democratic global socialism is "unrealistic." But millions of people are already involved in the struggle "to globalize equity not poverty, solidarity not anti-sociality, diversity not conformity, democracy not subordination, and ecological balance not suicidal rapaciousness" (Michael Albert, "What Are We For?", *ZNet*, [www.zmag.org/znet.htm](http://www.zmag.org/znet.htm), September 6, 2001). The hope that such vital objectives could be achieved without the abolition of global capitalism is what is truly "unrealistic." ❧

*David Michael Smith, Ph.D., is Professor of Government at College of the Mainland in Texas City, Texas.*

## Make an IMPACT

### Mobilization for Global Justice

<http://www.globalizethis.org/fightback>

### 50 Years is Enough: US Network for Global Economic Justice

<http://www.50years.org>

### Jubilee U.S.A. Network

<http://www.jubileeusa.org/start.htm>

### Globalization in Focus

<http://www.fpip.org/global/index.html>

### World Development Movement

<http://www.wdm.org.uk/action/index.htm>

### International Monetary Fund

<http://www.imf.org>

### World Bank

<http://www.worldbank.org>



## Are You Eating Genetically Modified Food?

**T**housands of name-brand products in your grocery, like many Kellogg's cereals, are made with genetically engineered foods. Yet doctors and scientists have warned that these foods may not be safe in the diet or the environment.

You can avoid GE food with the Greenpeace True Food Shopping List. The List is available at [www.truefoodnow.org](http://www.truefoodnow.org)

## GREENPEACE

[www.greenpeaceusa.org](http://www.greenpeaceusa.org)



frontside/\*tomsawyer  
split cd



Two Chicago bands. Frontside will floor you with their power and intensity.  
\*tomsawyer plays dirty punk rock ala Small Brown Bike.

SIN009 - \$8 ppd.

Logan's Loss  
RIOT LIKE



Chicago punk rock similar to the Lawrence Arms and Millencolin.

SIN010 - \$6 ppd.



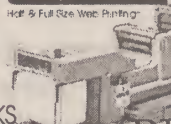
Sinister Label, P.O. Box 1178 LaGrange Pk IL, 60526, USA, [www.sinisterlabel.com](http://www.sinisterlabel.com)  
Distributed by Red Line Distribution, [www.redlinedistribution.com](http://www.redlinedistribution.com)

**If you need printing  
check our website for  
special offers now!**

BOOKS  
MAGAZINES  
JOURNALS  
COMICS  
ZINES  
NEWSLETTERS  
CATALOGS  
MANUALS  
DIRECTORIES  
HANDBOOKS  
TEXT BOOKS  
WORK BOOKS  
SCHOOL BOOKS  
SOFTWARE MANUALS



COLD &  
HEATSET  
WEB  
PRINTING  
LARGE  
SHEET  
FEED  
PERFECTING



Full Mailinghouse  
Service

All Major Credit Cards



1-800-940-6566 727-942-2218 Fx 727-937-4758  
720 Wesley Ave Tarpon Springs FL 34689  
[print@marrak.com](mailto:print@marrak.com) [www.marrak.com](http://www.marrak.com)

**Serving the small press community since 1976**



Check out

[VeganMercantile.com](http://VeganMercantile.com)

for the

**LARGEST SELECTION**

of AR message shirts,  
and you too can be a walking billboard...



**Support your community--BUY VEGAN!**





# FUELED BY RAMEN

PRESENTS:

## FEED YOUR EARS VOL. 1

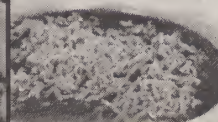
**IN STORES NOW**  
**FEATURING UNRELEASED TRACKS FROM:**  
FRODUS  
THE IMPOSSIBLES  
THE STEREO  
RECOVER  
WHIPPERSNAPPER  
AND MORE...



**FUELED BY RAMEN**

PO BOX 12568, GAINESVILLE, FL 32604 USA / [WWW.FUELED BY RAMEN.COM](http://WWW.FUELED BY RAMEN.COM)

**FUELED BY RAMEN**  
**FEED YOUR EARS VOL. 1**

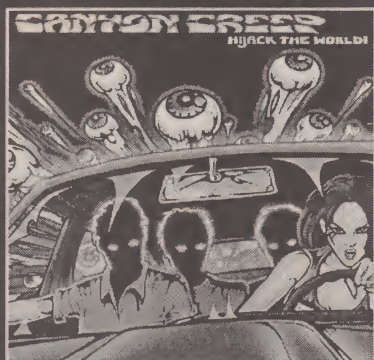
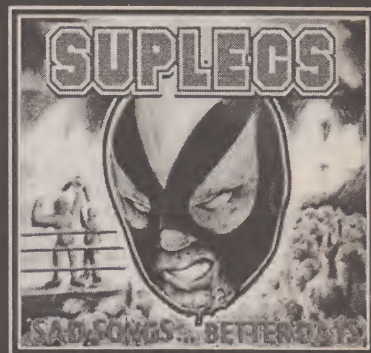


LESS THAN 100  
THE STEREO  
RECOVER  
WHIPPERSNAPPER  
THE IMPOSSIBLES  
CANDIDAL BLINDFOLD  
THE STEREO  
DIAMOND MINE  
THE PIETASTERS  
FRODUS  
THE STEREO  
RECOVER  
WHIPPERSNAPPER  
AND MORE...



# HEAVIER THAN THOU SUPLECS

Nawlin's born and inbred mud slingers Suplecs and their resin rock masterpiece. Like a THC trip down a 1970's rock n' roll highway.

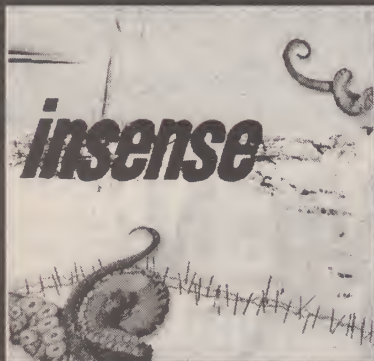
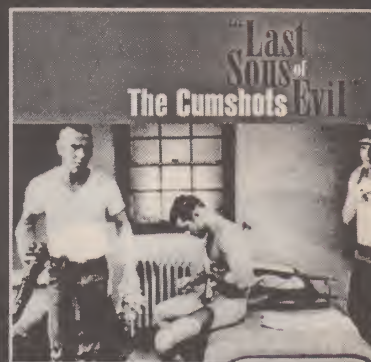


## CANYON CREEK

San Francisco's groove rock kings and their critically acclaimed debut. Produced by the stoner god-like Billy Anderson.

# The Cumshots

Norwegian Death n' Roll. For fans of Left Hand Path and Clandestine era Entombed.



## insense

No triggers. No loops. No dupes. Just a straight ahead brutal noise metal attack. The perfect soundtrack to a bloody murder.

Other titles available  
from This Dark Reign:



[www.devildollrecords.com/this\\_dark\\_reign](http://www.devildollrecords.com/this_dark_reign) • Get these titles and much more at your local record retailer • Distributed by Revolver, Southern, Smash, FAB, all One Stops, Super D, and Direct

**Get 15% off your next online order at [www.devildollrecords.com](http://www.devildollrecords.com)**  
**When prompted, type in the following code for your discount: IMP01**



# City of Caterpillar

FULL-LENGTH LP/CD

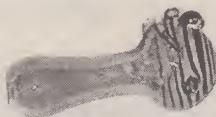


LP \$9 CD \$10 (Can&Mex add \$1, world add \$4)  
checks to Greg Drudy not Level Plane

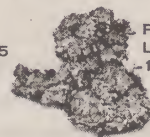


www.level-plane.com  
PO Box 4328 Philadelphia, PA 19118

## THE HERBAL CANTERA

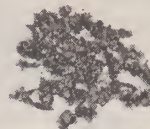


QUALITY COLOR CHANGING  
GLASS PIPES STARTING AT \$5  
ON SALE AS LOW AS \$3.50!!  
THAT IS UNHEARD OF!



PANAMA RED  
LEGAL HERBAL BUDS  
1/2 OUNCE \$17.50

TOP BRANDS IN THE DETOX BUSINESS  
SUCH AS COVERT LABS (TOTALLY CLEAN),  
CLEAR CHOICE, GHF FAST FLUSH, AND  
MORE. ALL AT LOW PRICES, GHF FASTFLUSH  
IS ONLY \$12.00 PER BOTTLE!!



AHIA BUD (LEGAL HYBRID)  
FROM HAWAII \$15.50 FOR  
A FULL 1/2 OUNCE OF BUD!!



20% OFF 20% OFF 20% OFF

Simply visit our site at <http://www.herbalcantera.net>,  
add your items to the shopping cart and enter the  
code 093023267 in the voucher section of the cart  
and you will receive 10% off your order. Order \$50 or  
more and you'll receive a standard 10% off plus an  
additional 10% off with the code for a total of 20% off!

All major payments accepted:  
Mastercard, Visa, American Express,  
Discover, Pay Pal, Personal Check  
and Money Orders!

You must be 18+ years old.

FREE GIFT WITH ALL ORDERS!

Extremely fast shipping, most orders arrive in just 3-5 shipping days! Extreme privacy,  
we do not sell or give your info to anyone! Huge selection at prices so low you might  
just think it's wholesale (Hint for businesses we do wholesale to!)

AVAILABLE JULY 9TH, 2002 ON RESURRECTION A.D. RECORDS

# SPITVALVES MOVIN ON



WWW.SPITVALVES.COM



RESURRECTION A.D. RECORDS PO BOX 763 RED BANK, NJ 07701 USA - WWW.RESURRECTION-AD.COM RADR@RESURRECTION-AD.COM



# ONE NATION, INDIVISIBLE

By Morris Sullivan

art by HOPE

One day toward the end of June, one of my editors called me. I was on my way to see the Mayor of a small community nearby; his town is on my beat, and I was to interview him about a July 4 event. The editor wanted to know, "Does the city's commission say the pledge of allegiance before their meetings?" It seems a huge, national story had just hit: the 9th Circuit US Court of Appeals had just decided the pledge, with its "one nation, under God" language, violated the establishment clause of the first amendment.

The paper was looking for a local angle on the story, and I told the editor that the little community does, indeed, say the pledge.

When I got to the mayor's house, I told him about the editor's question. This particular mayor is pretty levelheaded, as politicians go. I won't name him, because I didn't yet know I'd be writing this, and want to honor his "off the record" status.

I wondered if he'd thought, yet, about what the commission might do differently, if they had to. "I guess we'll keep doing what we've been doing," he said. "Until we have some reason to do differently." However, he mentioned, he had already wondered about it. For example, the day before, a committee had planned the opening ceremony for their July 4 festival, complete with the pledge.

The irony of that was not lost on him. "Well," I said, "you could always just revert to the original version, and say 'one nation, indivisible. It's better poetry, anyway.'"

That phrase, "one nation, indivisible," came to mind over and over as the flames of controversy raged. Government leaders universally ruled out any possibility that perhaps the judges had the best interests of some Americans at heart. Congress protested by loudly reciting the pledge. For the most part, television news ignored any rational discussion of the event in favor of fanning the flames of

patriotism. Most amazing, perhaps, was the President's response: In a remarkable display of pecker-waving, Bush all but promised to hang the judges who made the decision.

Within days, the media reported a huge "victory": the judges had offered to "hold off" on making their decision official. Washington, of course, puffed its little chest out and did a victory dance. However, said First Amendment lawyer Steven G. Mason, the court's move was mainly a public relations gesture. The ruling was nothing like the crisis it was made out to be.

"The media don't understand the procedure," he said. "This man filed a lawsuit to declare 'under God' unconstitutional," based on the establishment clause in the first amendment. The establishment clause reads, "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion," and by extension, "Congress may not establish a religion," either.

This is the clause the court used to determine that "under god" was unconstitutional; it does tend to protect the non-religious, because it says government can't establish or promote a particular religion, or religion in general.

However, in his suit, Mason explained, the plaintiff lost. "So he appealed to the circuit court, who published their opinion. Whenever the court enters an opinion it's not final for some period," he explained, until after the losing side has a chance to come back. The give-and-take can last months, if not years, before such a decision has any practical effect.

Mason is a Florida attorney who specializes in civil rights cases. One would have to look hard to find a more vociferous, more tenacious defender of the first amendment. However, when I asked his opinion of the controversy, his answer surprised me.

"The judges were extremely well-intentioned," Mason said. "But I think it was a bad decision. It misses the boat from a practical





standpoint; it's an ivory tower decision that has no ground in reality."

"We all know religion has political aspects," Mason said. "But 'In God we trust' and the Pledge of Allegiance are used in a less political, more ceremonial sense." Courts have ruled in the past, he explained, that such phrases are not used in an establishment sense.

"We were founded as a religious society, because a large contingent of our founding fathers were proponents of religion," he added. "We're never going to eliminate that from our society."

Mason is probably right about that. While there was no small amount of controversy over the inclusion of religious verbiage in founding documents like the Declaration of Independence, in the end, those more freethinking founders acquiesced to the religious majority.

In the case of the pledge, however, "God" was added after the fact. In 1892, when Francis Bellamy, a Baptist minister and Christian Socialist, wrote the pledge, the nation was only then one generation removed from the Civil War, which had threatened to physically divide the country. "One nation, indivisible" was a powerfully important phrase.

Not until 1954 was the phrase "under God" added, against the protests of Bellamy's granddaughter, who insisted he would have resented the change. One rationalization for the 1954 revision, however, was that America was again in danger of division. At the time, Americans lived with the fear that Communism would overcome our liberties, either from Soviet aggression or from within our own borders. America's pledge needed to be "different from a communist country's," thus God was inserted into it.

Today, the possibility of civil war is absurdly remote. Thankfully, the anti-Communist mentality is virtually meaningless. While these threats have faded, our nation has become infinitely more diverse than it was during Eisenhower's day. It is likely the reaction against the judicial threat against "under God" comes more from a fear of that diversity than from a love of God or of patriotic traditions.

It is also, unfortunately, a handy way for an elected official to gain public support during a time when Americans are more patriotic, and more fearful of threats from outside the nation, than at any time since World War II.

Over the long run, however, it is imperative that our leaders become more inclusive, not less so. That means recognizing the rights and beliefs of *all* their constituents.

"I am a sect to myself, as far as I know," said Thomas Jefferson. In that tradition, I will say little about my own religious beliefs. I would not expect my own belief system to be welcomed at any meeting of any mainstream religion or, for that matter, any new-age one. However, I'm not, strictly speaking, an atheist.

But for several reasons, I find that civic version of "God"—the God of Boy Scout troops, Chambers of Commerce, and school assemblies—to be mildly offensive. Like Mason, I think the phrase is a

small thing. However, in such civic trappings, that vague, undefined word, "God," is either: (a) the Judeo-Christian one; or (b) meaningless babble.

Either way, I don't like it. If it's the Judeo-Christian "God," then to say "under God" is to exclude a hell of a lot of Americans. It excludes not only atheists, but Buddhists, who are non-theistic. It excludes a growing number of Neo-Pagans who prefer to worship a goddess; it excludes those whose god is called by any number of Hindu names, excludes those who call god "Allah"—the list goes on and on.

Despite our government's insistence that, when it comes to religious beliefs, it is all-inclusive and all-accepting, a phrase like "one nation, under God" essentially judges all those who do not believe in a Judeo-Christian God to be less than good Americans.

The majority of Americans are believers, and it would take some very strong leadership to change our deistic national paradigm. Someone or some group would have to have guts enough to say in public, "we don't think you have to believe in God in order to be good Americans."

To have good values and ethics, to cherish equality, liberty and justice: those are the traits that make us good Americans, and they have nothing to do with a belief in God. Therefore, demanding that Americans believe in God is both unnecessary and anti-American, because it excludes many good Americans.

Of course, those who defend the phrase will say "God" doesn't refer to any particular God. In fact, the decision, if it goes anywhere at all, will likely be overturned on the basis, as Mason explained it, "As a practicality, at worst the phrase 'under god' is a minimal intrusion on the first amendment. It has no impact on government's establishment of religion, and it doesn't coerce anyone into any government-sponsored religious viewpoint."

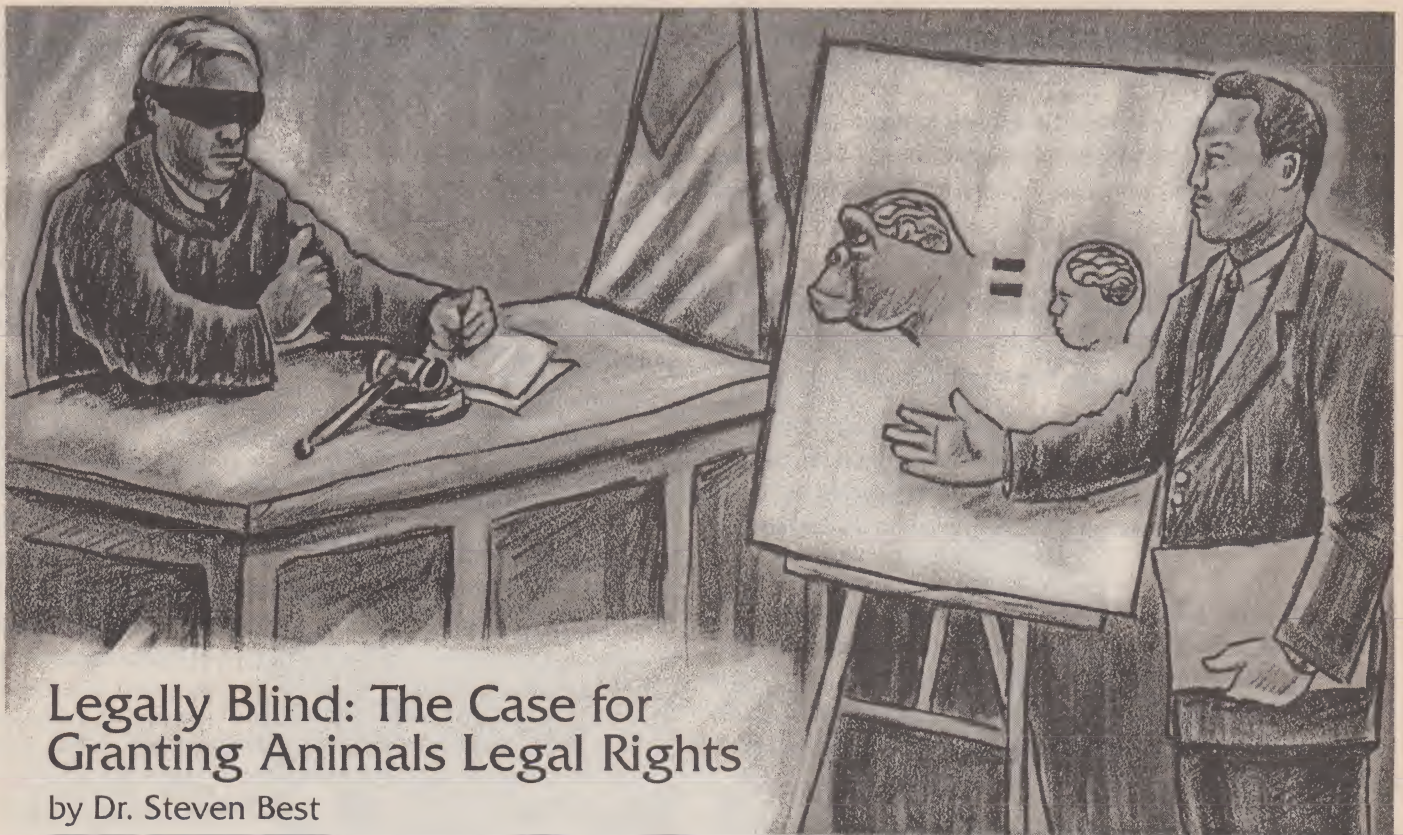
In other words, "God" can mean a lot of things, and does not necessarily mean any particular thing. That argument reminds me a little of an interview I once did with an AA person, in which I suggested atheists might have trouble with all the God stuff in the 12-step program. He gave me a standard AA answer, which was that "God" could be anything. "It could even be that doorknob over there, as long as it helps you stay sober."

Thus "God" becomes meaningless babble. If "that doorknob over there" can be called God, then God, by definition, is simply a figment of the human imagination.

Eisenhower, when he praised the addition of the phrase, clearly intended it to refer to the Judeo-Christian version, not a doorknob. Every morning, he said, millions of schoolchildren would now "proclaim in every city and town, every village and rural schoolhouse, the dedication of our nation and our people to the Almighty."

"If you're going to do an establishment argument, do it when the government's trying to shove religion down someone's throat," Mason told me. It's too bad he wasn't practicing law in 1954, when Eisenhower and Congress agreed with the Knights of Columbus to shove "the almighty" down our throats. ❧





## Legally Blind: The Case for Granting Animals Legal Rights

by Dr. Steven Best

art by Eric Spitler

In corrupt social systems such as the U.S., the relationship between law and ethics is rarely parallel. Laws exist to protect the powerful rather than the powerless, and ethics serve as an alibi for wrongdoing and evil. Thus, what is ethically right is not typically embodied in law, and what is legal rarely seems moral. In fact the real scandal about the U.S. government is what is perfectly legal.

A dramatic case in point is the antiquated laws regarding animals. In a society that parades as humane, compassionate, and the beacon of civilization, billions of animals are killed each year for the most trivial reasons. The laws relating to the contemporary treatment of animals derive from ancient times when both people and animals were held as common slaves. The legal distinction between a person and property goes back at least to Roman society: free men were subjects with rights, whereas women, children, slaves, and animals were considered objects and property. The arbitrary viewpoints that reduced human beings to slaves and property have been overturned, but there has not yet been widespread recognition that the theories justifying the exploitation of animals are just as arbitrary and wrong and that the same logic that freed human slaves ought to emancipate nonhuman slaves.



Karl Marx observed that strange things happen in the “topsy-turvy” world of capitalism where marketplace values trump human or moral values. He saw capitalist society as structured around a process of “commodity fetishization” whereby the characteristics of subject and object are reversed: living beings are defined as inanimate property, and property and money become animated subjects more sacred than life. Only from this distorted viewpoint does it make sense to speak of Animal Liberation Front property destruction as “terrorism,” and the everyday killing of animal industries as routine “business.”

From a legal standpoint, the problem of animal exploitation is 3-fold: what animal “protection” laws exist are still weak; they are poorly enforced; and they do not apply to animal exploitation industries that enjoy full legal rights to confining, torturing, experimenting on, and killing billions of animals every year. The root cause of these problems is that animals are still regarded as property, and are hardly differentiated from physical objects. Despite monumental revolutions in science beginning in the 16<sup>th</sup> century, and in philosophy in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, both of which challenged core tenets of the Christian-Greek worldview, the basic legal framework dealing with animals has remained untouched and for all intents and purposes animal law is still Roman law.

The theological and philosophical foundations informing the Western legal framework are outmoded and untenable.

For present purposes, I characterize Western thought as deeply flawed by 4 key, interrelated fallacies. In the first fallacy, *essentialism*, human and nonhuman animals are denied a changing, evolving nature and instead are assigned a static essence or being. Specifically, humans are defined as rational, linguistic, technological beings made in the image of God, whereas nonhuman animals are defined as beings without minds or souls, as mere creatures of instinct, appetite, and sensation. Second, the fallacy of *rationalism* states that the entire cosmos is infused with a rational nature that reflects the mind of God. The world is orderly and a product of divine design. Mind or soul is the essence of human beings too, unlike animals who are mere creatures of sensation. Thus, the third fallacy of *dualism* holds that reason and language capacities sharply delineate human beings from animals. We have one essence, they have another; moral and legal considerations belong only to the human realm, and human beings have no direct obligations of any kind to animals. The fourth fallacy of *teleology* claims that behind the law-governed and rational nature of the universe lies a purposeful scheme where every order of life is arranged in a hierarchical “Great Chain of Being” that ranges from the most simple and imperfect to the most complex and perfect. Because animals are inferior to human beings, their purpose is to serve human needs, and we can use them as we see fit. As Aristotle put it, “Plants exist for the sake of animals, just as animals exist for the sake of men.”

From the Presocratics and the Stoics to the medievalists and the moderns, we find the same basic framework that is now widely recognized as but a reflection of the prejudices and fictions of

ancient times. On the whole, Western philosophy has badly misunderstood human and animal natures: it created a dualistic division where there is only an evolutionary continuum; it attributed too much reason to human animals and too little to nonhuman animals; it imagined a purposeful universe that relegates animals to a desert of non-moral and legal status; and it enthrones human beings at the reign of life.

Animal rights cannot be institutionalized in the legal realm until the fallacies emanating from traditional religion, philosophy, and science are thoroughly discredited and abandoned. Postmodern theories have debunked Western metaphysics, but they have not influenced mainstream legal circles; nor have they been adequately applied to animal issues. And postmodernists are as speciesist as anyone else.

More significant developments have emerged from the fields of philosophy (animal rights theories), science (cognitive ethology, the study of animal emotions and intelligence), and law itself (through the works of Gary Francione, Steven Wise, and others). The changes in science are especially important, for they have provided abundant proof that animals are far more like us, and far more complex, than we dared imagine. The data comes from physiology and anatomy that identifies structural similarities between human beings and animals; from genetics that discerns our close evolutionary relationships with other primates; from field studies that shed light on animal behaviors and have showed many animals too are tool makers and users; from biology that reveals a similar chemical make-up to human and nonhuman animal brains and emotions; and from various behavioral experiments that demonstrate animals possess a remarkable range of mental and communication abilities.

There has been progress in the legal field in terms of punishing wanton acts of cruelty to domestic animals, as more and more states make animal cruelty a felony crime. But these laws apply mainly to domestic animals and exist more to thwart the harm done to humans than to animals themselves (as it is widely understood that violence to animals can quickly lead to violence to humans themselves). Initiated by PETA and other organizations, recently there have been reforms of the treatment of farmed animals used by the suppliers of major fast food chains such as McDonald's, Burger King, and Wendy's. “Humane killing” laws are better enforced and cage sizes are bigger, but of course every year in the U.S. alone 10 billion farmed animals still are tortured in the factory farms and meet gratuitous and violent deaths in the nation's slaughterhouses.

Animals are still property, and the property “owners” —whether scientists in a laboratory; agribusiness CEOs on the factory farm; or the management of rodeos, circuses, and zoos—have every right to do what they wish to animal bodies. The legal rationale are two-fold: any act causing animal suffering is acceptable so long as it is part of a “tradition” of animal exploitation and/or has some “rational” purpose such as making profit or “disciplining” an animal. Thus, while the burning or beating of a cat or dog is a felony

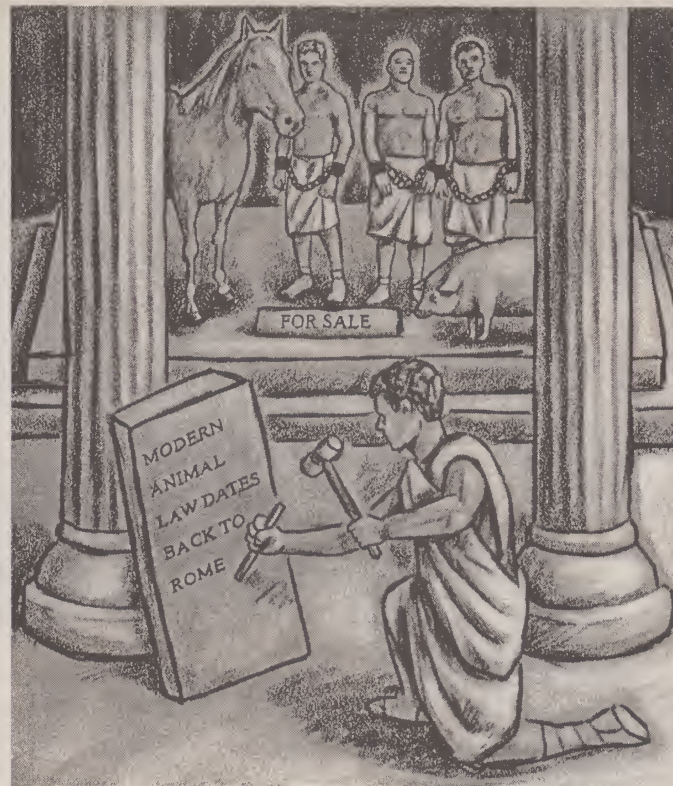


crime in many states, this is so because it has no redeemable utilitarian function for society, not because it is intrinsically wrong. Where animals are property, the property rights of individual animal "owners" trump public moral concerns, such as voiced by animal advocacy groups, and many a just battle has been lost in the courts through an exploiter's appeal to "ownership" rights over animals.

The hellish reality of animal existence cannot fundamentally change until we create a seismic cultural shift that replaces the notion of animals as property with a radically alternative concept, such as animals as persons. Human beings have no monopoly on the concept of person, which entails qualities such as sentience, having preferences and desires, and the ability to remember or project ideas into the future. Personhood is the driving force behind The Great Ape Project, supported by animal activists such as Peter Singer and Steven Wise. The Great Ape Project is rooted in the premise that apes are as complex as human children and if children are persons, so too are apes. The idea is that once our closest animal relatives acquire fundamental rights and the status of personhood, other animals can follow. A more general change that could grant substantive moral and legal status to all animals rather than just apes would be a shift from animals as object to animals as subjects, where it is understood that both a necessary and sufficient condition of moral and legal rights is merely to be sentient and have elementary preferences, such as avoiding pain and remaining alive.

Certainly the laws are not consistent. It is a flagrant contradiction to grant a severely impaired human being personhood but deny it to a more intelligent and aware ape, or any other complex animal. If entities such as corporations can be considered as a "person" in the courts, it shouldn't be too far a stretch to treat an animal as such. Moreover, Western history is rife with bizarre cases of prosecuting and punishing animals for "crimes" such as eating crops, thereby assuming they are persons responsible for their actions when convenient, while regarding them nonetheless as unthinking objects.

Hopeful signs of change are unfolding. The Great Ape Project is educating a worldwide audience about the minds of our closest evolutionary relatives. Steven Wise's book *Rattling the Cage: Toward Legal Rights For Animals* (2000) widely publicized the cause of legal personhood for great apes, as his new book *Drawing the Line: Science and the Case For Animal Rights* (2002) extends the



argument to other animals. In large part because of Wise's lead, "Animal Rights and the Law" courses are taught at universities such as Harvard, Yale, Georgetown, and dozens of other law schools. Thousands of lawyers are already practicing some form of animal law, representing their unique clientele who can neither speak for themselves nor pay their legal fees and are always innocent. The campaign sparked by In Defense of Animals to declare human beings the "guardians" not "owners" of animals and to change legal language accordingly is being implemented in communities across the U.S.

Increasingly, courts are awarding animal guardians not only market "property value" for animals wrongfully injured or killed

by another party, but also additional damages for loss of companionship or emotional distress, signaling a belief that animals are more than commodities. Wise and others expect cases litigating the rights of great apes and other animals to be coming to courtrooms soon. This augurs an intense struggle over social perceptions of nonhuman animals and fundamental changes in society as a whole as human beings increasingly will be able to represent the interests of exploited animals and sue on their behalf.

Sundry speciesists declare legal personhood for animals "a dangerous idea" and a slippery slope toward nonsense like bacteria rights, as animal exploitation industries fear their bloodletting may become limited or banned. Such hyperbolic reactions can be expected amidst creaking paradigm shifts. Caricatures and self-interests aside, the movement to abolish the property status of animals, and to secure them basic moral and legal rights, above all the right to bodily integrity, is one of the most important struggles of the contemporary period.

We are today at a similar stage in moral debate as we were over a century ago with the moral and legal status of blacks. In both cases, there is a movement to expand moral boundaries, to abolish a form of slavery, and to overcome entrenched prejudices. The law always has changed with evolving social norms, and it currently is in the midst of dramatic transformation. Animal rights stands not only to liberate animals, but the human mind itself as it begins to enter the next stage in its moral evolution. ❧

**Dr. Steven Best** is Associate Professor and Chair of Philosophy at the University of Texas, El Paso. He has published numerous books and articles on the topics of social theory, cultural studies, science and technology, and postmodernism. His next book will be *Moral Progress and Animal Rights: The Struggle For Human Evolution*. Some of his writings are posted at <http://utminers.utep.edu/best/>



edwerd?

Joy Explosion



"This stew of David Bowie/  
Beatles/Pink Floyd-inspired  
lo-fi psychedelic indie-rock  
freakouts reminds one of  
early Guided by Voices' best  
early work."... "Check it out!"  
~ The Big Takeover

Hear it / Buy it at:  
www.

AllegoryRecords  
.com

**Allegory  
Records**



"... Make no mistake about it,  
this is possibly the best Bowie  
album that the Thin White  
Duke never made. Imagine  
'Laughing Gnome'-era proto-  
psychedelic weirdness with  
that 70s-era glamtastic sound,  
topped by a dash of song-  
writing about buying  
guitars from guys who  
look like they should  
be in Korn. It doesn't  
get much better than  
this, frankly. ..."  
~ Splendidezine.com

PMB 228  
11024 Montgomery NE  
Albuquerque, NM 87111



## EVER WONDER WHAT THE RICH REALLY OWN?

Who they took it from?  
How it affects you?  
What can be done?

### Henry George School

312/362-9302 [www.hgchicago.org](http://www.hgchicago.org)

Schools in major cities

Correspondence and email courses available

## Magick Botanicals

products for people who are chemically sensitive  
and allergic to fragrance

[www.magickbotanicals.com](http://www.magickbotanicals.com)

hair care, body care, baby products and more!

**800-237-0674**



## TIME IN MALTA

A SECOND ENGINE

IN STORES NOW

also available:



THE STRYDER JUNGLE CITY TWITCH

the stryder  
jungle city twitch  
evr72 cd  
out now!



THE HOPE CONSPIRACY

the hope conspiracy  
endnote  
evr75 cd/LP  
In stores 9/16



fairweather  
alaska  
evr76 cdep/10"  
In stores 8/20

EQUAL VISION RECORDS PO BOX 34 HUDSON NY 12534 • [WWW.EQUALVISION.COM](http://WWW.EQUALVISION.COM) • 800 EYE EDGE





# 7,254 Ways To Help You Understand WorldCom Chairman John W. Sidgmore

by Adam Finley • art by Marty Kelley

**WORLDCom CHAIRMAN JOHN W. SIDGMORE** is under intense scrutiny, and rightfully so, since his company's alleged miscalculations resulted in \$3.9 billion not being accounted for—a serious blow to the industry, investors, and an unstable economy.

Should corporations be held to a higher standard so as to avoid this kind of sucker punch to our infrastructure? Many people, no matter their political beliefs, would argue that, yes, these individuals should be held accountable, and even charged with fraud.

By the time these words make it from my computer screen to your hands, you may have already made up your mind as to what should happen to Sidgmore and the other WorldCom executives; but before you close yourself off completely, take a journey back in time with me as we watch a young John W. Sidgmore growing up. I think this look into the human side of this misunderstood individual might just change your mind, and even provide a touch of empathy.

## Anderson's Pet Store, 1964:

[Phone rings]

**Sidgmore:** Hello, Anderson's Pet Store.

**Caller:** Yes, I'm looking for a cocker spaniel for my daughter. Do you have any?

**Sidgmore:** I'm pretty sure we do, but let me check for sure. Please hold. [Ten seconds later] It looks like we have about six billion cocker spaniels, sir.

**Caller:** That seems like an awful lot.

**Sidgmore:** Well, I could recount them, sir, but the dog cages are about twelve billion feet from where I'm standing.

**Caller:** It only took you a few seconds to count them and return to the phone.

**Sidgmore:** Sir, you and I both know it took me seven hours.

**Caller:** I think I'm going to buy my dog elsewhere.

**Sidgmore:** Good luck. We're the only pet store in the area.

**Caller:** You're located in a mall with three other pet stores.

**Sidgmore:** Listen, if you want to drive eight trillion miles to one of those other pet stores, be my guest, but the last I knew there were only sixty-seven hours in a day. Are you sure you want to waste them like that? If you come over right now, I can get you a really good deal on a cocker spaniel puppy.

**Caller:** Well, okay. I only want one, though.

**Sidgmore:** I'll have them both ready when you get here.

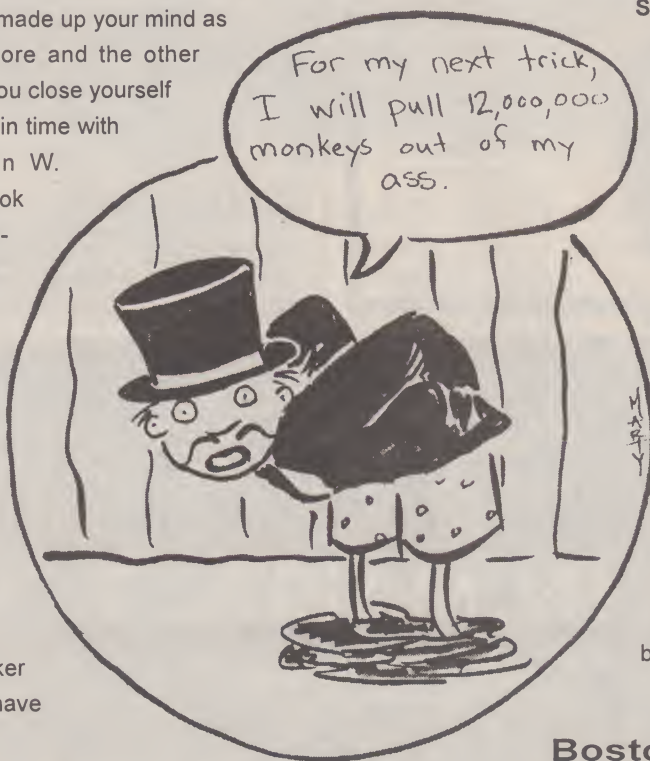
## Washington, D.C., 1970:

Sidgmore amazes a crowd of people in front of the Jefferson Memorial by reciting the names of all nine hundred states in less than one minute. President Nixon gives the young man a medal, but it takes the president several hours to bend his hulking twelve-hundred feet frame downward in order to hand Sidgmore the medal, a single engraved medallion which may have actually been five.

## Boston, Massachusetts, 1982:

A once vibrant and energetic John W. Sidgmore collapses during the Boston Marathon after barely finishing the first three hundred miles. He is unable to conserve enough energy to complete the final five thousand.

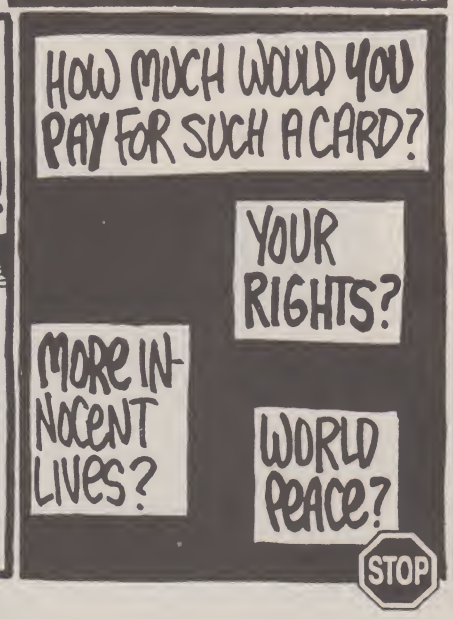
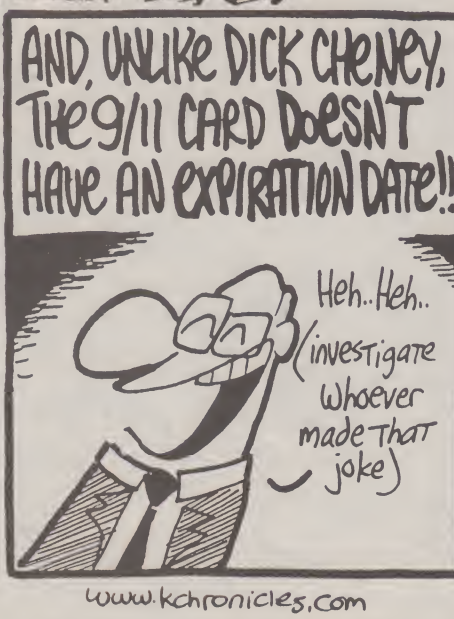
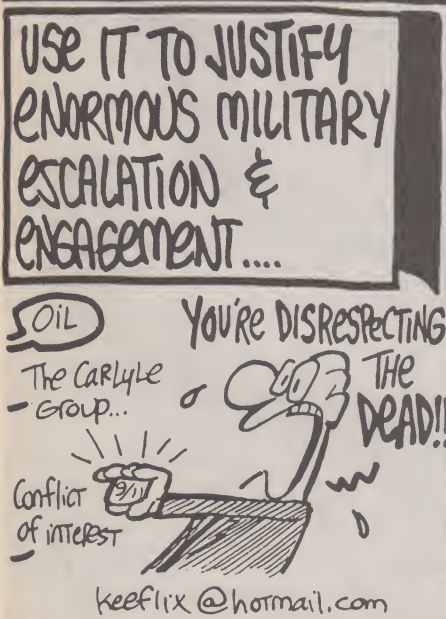
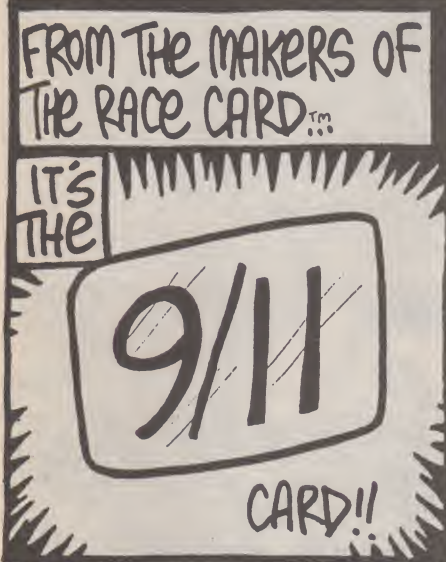
There you have it, seven brief journeys back in time into the life of businessman and patriot John W. Sidgmore. Even if this retrospective didn't change your mind about this man's alleged crimes, I trust it has at least made you more sensitive to a corrupt system that ruins even the most astute and self-aware individuals. «





Wknl: P.O. Box 591794 San Francisco CA 94159-1794

WHAT'S BIG DICK CHENEY GOT DOWN HIS PANTS THAT MAKES HIM THE MOST POWERFUL MAN ON THE PLANET?

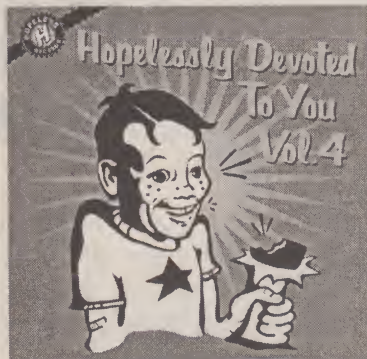


keeflix@hotmail.com

www.kchronicles.com



# Summer CD/DVD Compilations



## Hopelessly Devoted to You Vol. 4 out now

HR662-CD Sampler

10 Unreleased tracks, 18 in all from Common Rider, Mustard Plug, Alom and His Package, Thrice, Avenged Sevenfold, Samiam and many more...



PO Box 7495 Van Nuys, CA 91409  
WWW.HOPELESSRECORDS.COM



## Cinema Beer Goggles DVD out July 23

HR608-DVD

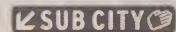
Videos by: Blink 182, NOFX, Face to Face, Vandals, Circle Jerks, Guttermouth, No Use for a Name, 88 Fingers Louie, Funeral Oration, No Fun At All, 10 Foot Pole, The Goops, Jughead's Revenge, White Kaps, Bollweevils, Tiltwheel



## Plea For Peace/Take Action Vol. 2 out August 20

SC022-Low Price Double CD

32 track Double CD featuring tracks from Snapcase, Poison the Well, Cave In, Anti-Flag, Finch, Common Rider and many more...



PO Box 7495 Van Nuys, CA 91409  
WWW.SUBCITY.NET

*This is the Human body*



*And this is the Human body on all  
the drugs, chemicals, and hormones  
injected into beef...*



*Any Questions  
?*

The Mail Order Catalog  
for Healthy Eating  
Your source for great vegetarian food  
1-800-695-2241  
www.healthy-eating.com

# level plane

OUT NOW



CITY OF CATERPILLAR LP/CD  
MUCH-AWAITED LP FROM THIS  
BEAUTIFUL AND HAUNTING VIRGINIAN  
BAND. EPIC AND CRUSHING.



TRANSISTOR TRANSISTOR 12"/CDEP  
SHINE AND DRIVEN ROCK FROM  
THESE NEW HAMPSHIRE UPSTARTS.  
LIVE FREE OR DIE INDEED.

COMING SOON:  
RACEBANNON - "IN THE GRIPS..." 2xLP  
MELT BANANA - 6"  
ATBL - "THE ELEMENTAL GEARBOT" CD  
THE FICTION 12"  
HOT CROSS/LIGHT THE FUSE AND RUN 7"  
ENVY/ISCARIOTE CD

STILL AVAILABLE:  
HOT CROSS - "...LUNGS" CDEP  
HIDDEN CHORD - "THE CAPTAIN..." CD  
NORTH OF AMERICA - "THE SEPULTURA" CD  
YAGE 7"  
NEIL PERRY/KADSPLOIT 7"  
FORSTELLA FORD - "QUIETUS" LP/CD  
YOU & I - "THE CURTAIN FALLS" CD  
TONS MORE...

AVAILABLE DISTRIBUTED TITLES:  
CITY OF CATERPILLAR - DEMO & LIVE 12"  
ENVY - "ALL THE FOOTPRINTS..." LP/CD  
BOOKS LIE/LIVING UNDER LIES - SPLIT 7"  
plus about 300+ more titles from labels such as  
31G, 625, ACHE, COALITION, CONSTELLATION,  
COUNCIL, DEEP SIX, DIM MAK, DISCHORD,  
EARTHWATERSKY, EBULLITION, EHP, GRAVITY, GSL,  
H:G FACT, HAND HELD HEART, JADE TREE, LOVITT,  
MAGIC BULLET, MOUNTAIN, NO IDEA, NOVA,  
REVELATION, ROBOTIC EMPIRE, SECRETLY CANADIAN,  
SOUND VIRUS, SOUTHERN, STICKFIGURE,  
TIGER STYLE, TROUBLEMAN, YOUTH ATTACK!  
and dozens more. We update our distro daily

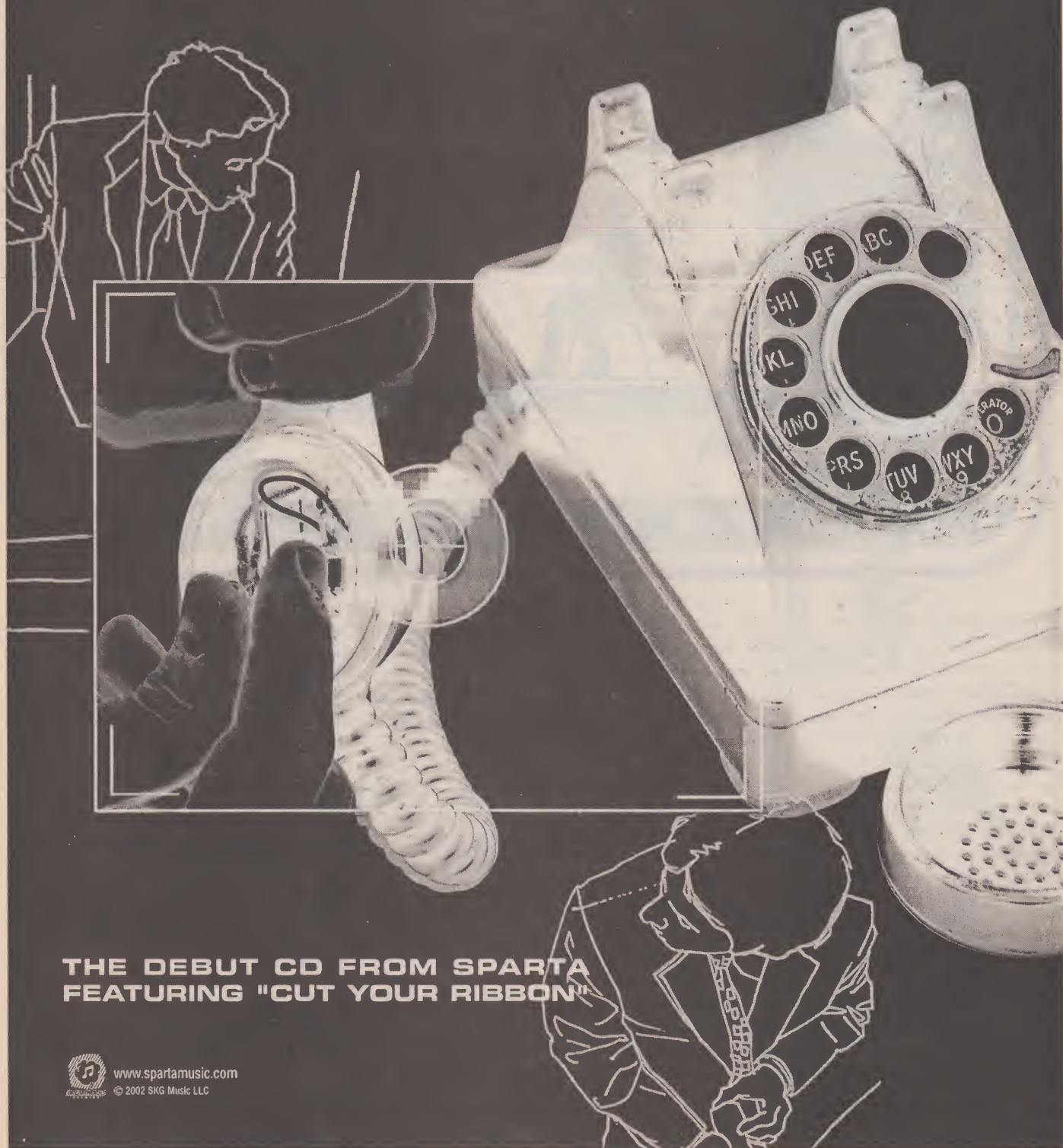
LEVEL PLANE POBOX 4329 PHILLY PA 19118  
www.LEVEL-PLANE.com info@level-plane.com  
new address. mail will be forwarded. we got your back





# SPARTA

## WIRETAP SCARS



THE DEBUT CD FROM SPARTA  
FEATURING "CUT YOUR RIBBON"



[www.spartamusic.com](http://www.spartamusic.com)

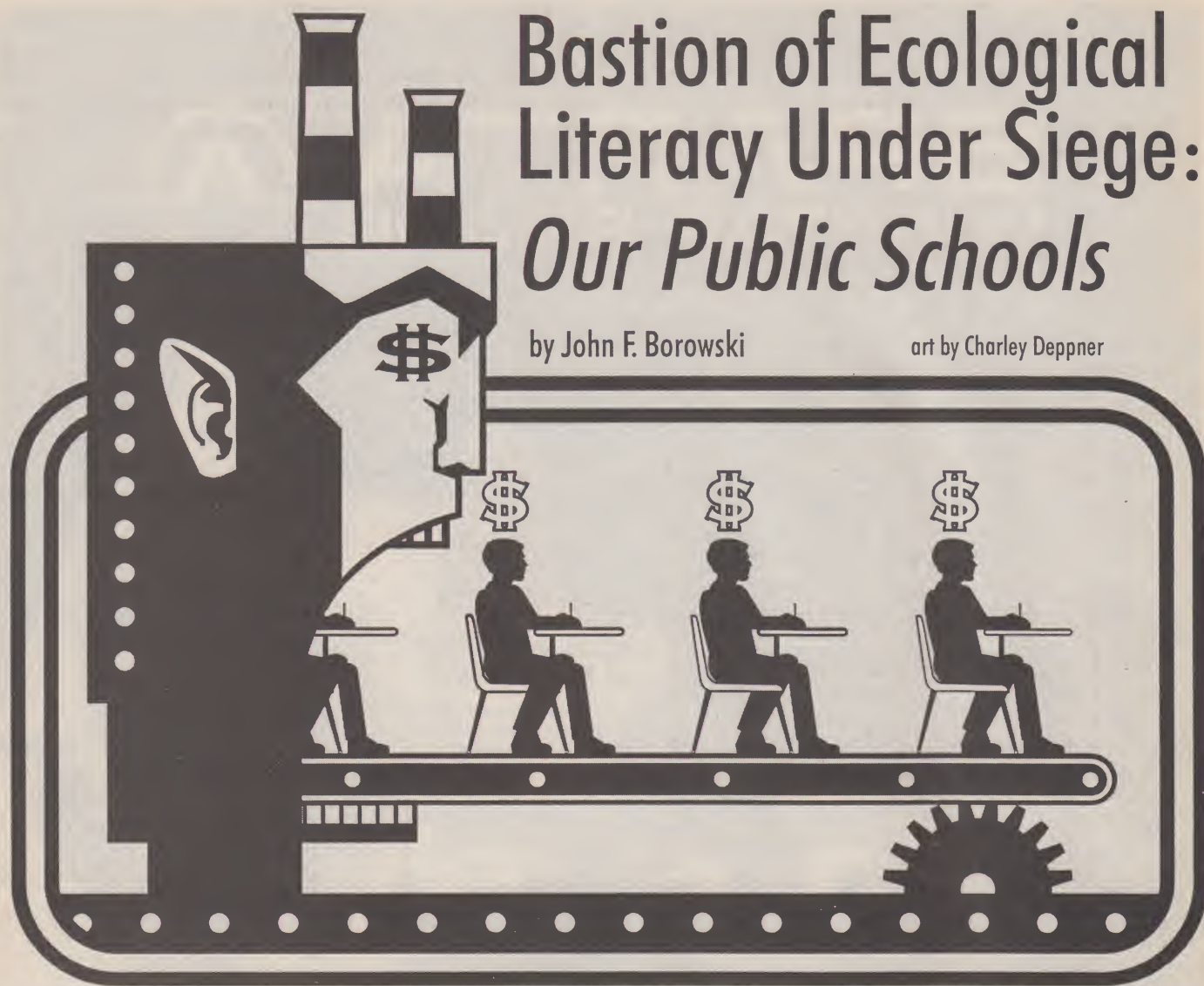
© 2002 SKG Music LLC



# Bastion of Ecological Literacy Under Siege: *Our Public Schools*

by John F. Borowski

art by Charley Deppner



**A FORD MOTOR COMPANY** DONATION of \$1.5 million dollars to "Provider Pals" epitomizes the quest for extractive industries and their attempt to dominate the last uncommercialized bastion: our public school system. Provider Pals is the latest scheme to circumvent the objectivity and sound science found in schools and to replace it with nothing short of corporate America's wish list. As a teacher, this is where I become fearful. Will untrained teachers see the need to balance these materials with other viewpoints? And will these teachers, woefully unprepared to teach a unit on pesticides, turn only to a "package" of videos, lesson plans and readings from the American Farm Bureau, an avid booster of chemical based agriculture? Especially if these "dubious" educational resources are found at prestigious conferences, teachers often believe that they must be reliable sources of information.

Teachers are struggling with inadequate budgets and overcrowded classrooms. "Free curriculum" is often a blessing, an opportunity to bring new and exciting materials into science courses. Yet, the untrained teacher who doesn't have a grasp of the complexity of ecological issues may, in turn be aiding and abetting this propaganda campaign.

In the last several years, I have watched literally a torrent of corpo-

rate sponsored materials enter our schools: coloring books by the coal industry; biotech giants proclaiming that genetically engineered foods are needed to feed a growing population; logging interests downplaying the vast clear cuts that scar our public lands. And the recent Ford Motor Company donation to Provider Pals illuminates the reach into our schools corporate powers are seeking.

Provider Pals, organized by Bruce Vincent, an outspoken defender of logging, mining and grazing on public lands, is brilliantly orchestrated with a charismatic, yet simple objective: put a face on miners, loggers and ranchers—a very happy face, indeed. Bringing his minstrel show to urban areas, Vincent and his happy band of "providers" apparently show the "city kiddies" how wood, meat and other resources are brought to the market. Central to this theme is the pretext that no good American would criticize American icons like the cowboy and the logger.

Industry has often used workers as pawns; millions of dollars were spent on the timber corporation's PR ploy to pit loggers against Spotted Owls. The loggers were not the bad guys. It was the likes of Boise Cascade and Weyerhaeuser who butchered millions of acres of watersheds, fragmented forests on a scale never seen before and used "cut and run" techniques, caring little about work-



ers and their communities. Deforested lands surround my community, a small logging town in Oregon, but to even broach that subject in our local high school is seen as sympathy to environmental zealots rather than a logical step in reaching sustainable forestry techniques.

The irony of programs like Provider Pals is that while they tug at our 'heart-strings' and have a valid message in terms of good, hard working rural folk, the omissions in the classroom are akin to a corporate commercial. Will the urban kids be made privy to information about predator control and vile, toxic substances like Compound 1080 (one of the world's most lethal chemicals) that are used by grazing interests to destroy our nation's predators? Will the logger character discuss the fact that only 4% of our native forests still stand, or that tree farms and massive clear-cutting have lead to our current fire dangers? Will the miner expose the 1872 Mining Law, which leads to legal theft of hard-rock minerals, while companies pay no royalties and the public picks up the cost of abandoned mines? On all cases, the answer is very doubtful.

While the Provider Pals have the right to give their viewpoints, is it good education to intentionally omit the whole picture? Case in point: I teach ecology, and I teach about the value of natural predators. If I were to receive "Living with Wildlife" worksheets from the Department of Agriculture's Wildlife Services and distribute them in school, I would skew the children's view of predators as nothing more than vicious and dangerous animals. Their worksheets and accompanying 27 minute film, let children see predators as problems to be poisoned, trapped and burned out of their dens. There are no discussions about the majesty of wolves and bears, no clarification that attacks on humans by predators are rare, and no indication that the ecological role of predators is to control prey species, improving the gene pool of prey by removing the weak and eating disease-causing carrion. In teaching ecology, I strive to teach all of the data, all the perspectives on an issue, and then let the children decide for themselves. Education that is "canned" and has an agenda to fulfill only muddles critical thinking skills.

If Mr. Vincent's puppet show doesn't work, he can follow the lead of the American Petroleum Institute. Exposed by the *New York Times* for trying to create "junk science" curricula, to downplay global warming, and cast the Kyoto Protocol into the same category as leprosy, API tried the clandestine route: seek cover from an established charlatan. They helped fund a module on energy for Project Learning Tree, an educational program funded by the American Forest Foundation. Project Learning Tree, fond of ignoring forest issues like clear cutting, monocultures, short rotation forestry, and the track record of multinationals on public lands, is a powerful player in environmental education with the backing of the nation's most powerful and ecologically unsound timber corporations. In the absence of big environmental organizations providing sound curricula, teachers are being bamboozled into using PLT materials and its' omission-filled agenda.

Sitting on the "panel" for this illustrious energy packet was the American Coal Foundation, the Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers, and the American Petroleum Institute. API President Red Cavaney sat on the panel himself, and he is an avid supporter of opening the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. The American Coal Foundation has been chastised for their previous foray into science curricula. "Power from Coal" was cited by educators as commercial and incomplete, downplaying the effects of carbon dioxide and actually suggesting that the earth could "benefit rather than be harmed from increased carbon dioxide." Lastly, the Alliance of Auto Manufacturers is fighting California's attempt to regulate emis-

sions from cars to combat global warming. With this powerful lineup of pro-fossil fuel players, how can I balance the scales during a classroom discussion? Obviously, I must either be fluent in potential alternative energy sources—like wind, solar, or geothermal—or my students will be denied the tools to make decisions about energy.

While the fortress of public schools has withstood these attacks, the cracks are showing. Growing state deficits mean less funding for curricula. Educators are being tempted to use corporate curricula that offer a "fast food approach" to learning: the questions and answers are the best that industry can cook up, similar to corporate profit sheets and exaggerated financial gains. Corporate America knows that as long as students have literacy in environmental issues, there will always be Rachel Carson and Cesar Chavez types in the American lexicon. And that is not permissible in a corporate run world, where knowledge is seen as a roadblock to quarterly profits.

Yes, it must be frustrating for certain corporations. They have unfettered access to the airways, given their monopoly on the television. Their pockets are deep and massive sums of money can be afforded to propaganda campaigns. American culture is increasingly being dictated by our citizens' dizzying compliance to fulfill their ego and spiritual satisfaction through consumption and paying less and less heed to meaningful dialogue about the consequences. But there has always been that outpost of hope, a roadblock if you will, that prevents free education from becoming "owned and paid for education."

Our public schools offer our youngest citizens access to scientific information not tainted or presented with outcomes already determined. Discussion and critical thinking, in the absence of corporate come-ons, will determine the best possible road to sustaining resources for eons to come. And if this bastion gives way to the knaves who would manipulate their own mothers to generate greater stock options, then we as a free and just society will see democracy erode and blow away as so much dust found in a clear-cut, overgrazed prairie or neglected strip-mine. ❧

**John F. Borowski**  
([jenjill@proaxis.com](mailto:jenjill@proaxis.com)) is a marine and environmental science teacher and has been an educator for over 24 years. His articles have appeared in *Common Dreams*, *N.Y. Times*, *Z Magazine* and the *UTNE Reader*.





# ETERNAL TREBLINKA

*Our Treatment of Animals and the Holocaust*

CHARLES PATTERSON, PH. D.

"For such a horrifying book,

*Eternal Treblinka* is beautifully written. And Patterson's research is first-rate. The author of a previous book about the holocaust, Patterson has obviously spent years reading the literature on this subject. His research into historical and modern methods of meat production is similarly extensive. I regard this as one of the finest animal rights books ever written."

## ETERNAL TREBLINKA

OUR TREATMENT OF ANIMALS  
AND THE HOLOCAUST



CHARLES PATTERSON  
Foreword by Judy Rosen Kaplan, Esq.

288 pp, 1-930051-99-9, \$20 pbk, 6 x 9

—Erik Marcus,  
Vegan.com

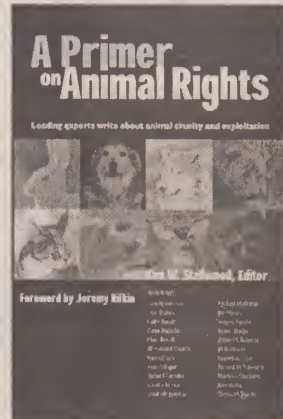


Kim W. Stallwood, Editor

## A PRIMER ON ANIMAL RIGHTS

*Leading Experts Write about Animal Cruelty and Exploitation*

A collection of articles that document how animals are cruelly exploited for profit. The articles, which are grouped in six primary areas, lay out the fundamental issues of animal rights. All the articles were previously published in *The Animals' Agenda*, the leading magazine of the animal advocacy movement.



312 pp, 1-59056-003-5, \$20 pbk, 6 x 9

# LANTERN books

To order call 1-800-856-8664 or visit [www.lanternbooks.com](http://www.lanternbooks.com)

Punk, Emo, Hardcore, Indie, Oil, Ska

# INTERPUNK

The Ultimate Punk Music Store

Over 27,000 Items

Cds / Records / T-Shirts / Wristbands /  
Leather / KeyChains/Sweatshirts /  
Videos/DVD / Hair Dye / Beanies / Caps /  
Buttons / Patches / Stickers / Posters /  
Zines / Books / Babydoll Shirts / Mallet  
Chains / Neck Chains /  
Chokers / And More ...

Free MP3s, Tour Dates, Band News, Record Label News...

**Go to [www.interpunk.com](http://www.interpunk.com)**

Check out our local section.  
We'll even sell your band's  
music!



SPECIALIZING IN RARE & OUT OF PRINT PUNK RECORDS.

**WWW.DRSTRANGE.COM**  
EVERYTHING FROM ADOLESCENTS TO ZOUNDS.

HUNDREDS OF T-SHIRTS,  
BUTTONS, PATCHES,  
BONDAGE PANTS, CREEPERS,  
BOOTS, LEATHER JACKETS,  
BULLET BELTS, STUDS,  
STUDED BELTS  
& FUCKLOADS MORE!

SECURE ON-LINE ORDERING. UPDATED EVERY TWO HOURS!

Order by phone (909) 944-1778 • Send three stamps or \$1.00 for the  
printed catalog: Dr. Strange Records, P.O. Box 1058, Alta Loma, CA 91701 USA



NEW RELEASES OUT SOON ON DR. STRANGE RECORDS:

THE SKULLS, CHANNEL THREE, *Barricaded Suspects* comp,  
4 Old TOXIC SHOCK 7"s, THE THREATS, STALAG 13 (reissue),  
GOVERNMENT ISSUE *Complete History Volume 3* and more!

Download songs for free. Go to the site and click on the NEWS section.

"If we don't have it,  
it doesn't exist"

## BLUE COLLAR REVENGE THEORY

energetic hardcore/punk from Louisville.  
Similar to Endpoint or Falling Forward, only  
a bit harder. 13 song cd \$5 ppd.

## BRYCC HOUSE BENEFIT CD

benefits a collectively run community center in Louisville. features Submission Hold, Kung Fu Rick, the Sissies, In Dk, Blue Collar Revenge Theory, Harum Scarum, Three Nails For A False Prophet, De La Hoya, the National Acrobat, and more. 25 tracks total. \$6 ppd



## THROWN BRICK RECORDS

PO BOX 4831 LOUISVILLE, KY 40204

make checks/mo payable to Jamie Prott

coming fall 2002 - Against Me! s/t CDEP,  
Operation: Cliff Clavin acoustic CD

## ee "For 100 We Try Harder"

From San Francisco, Ca. A fluid mixture of textured pop, improvisational post-rock, torrential washes of noise and droning instrumentals, gives ee the quality to both embrace and challenge the indie rock status quo whence they came.

### Featuring:

Soo Young Park from SEAM

Peter Nguyen from TOTAL SHUTDOWN

Tobin Mori from KOREA GIRL

<http://www.eetheband.com>

New Full Length

Available October 2nd, 2002

Distributed by Mordam



ASIAN MAN RECORDS

PO BOX #35585 MONTE SERENO, CA 95030 USA

<http://www.asianmanrecords.com>

e-mail: [mike@asianmanrecords.com](mailto:mike@asianmanrecords.com)



A SPLIT RECORD BY

MATT SKIBA  
OF ALKALINE  
TRIO



and

KEVIN SECONDS  
OF 7SECONDS

10 SONGS COMING THIS  
SEPTEMBER 2002

ON ASIAN MAN RECORDS

Distributed by Mordam



# A Tale Told By An Idiot

By John Chuckman

It's almost as though American policy in Afghanistan had followed the script for a Hollywood summer blockbuster. A potboiler-epic aimed at pleasing affluent, pimply teenage boys, dreaming dreams of power and adventure, its script mixing generous helpings of Cecil B. deMille, Steven Spielberg, explosive special effects, bad dialogue, and a lack of intelligible plot.

That may not be an exaggeration. Only reflect that America's previous dangerously hare-brained president, Mr. Nixon, used to watch the movie Patton over and over again, hoping to derive inspiration in dealing with the catastrophe he himself created.

Unfortunately, this isn't a movie. Real lives and real villages are being torn apart by a slightly-earlier generation of pimply American boys at the controls of some of the world's most hellish weapons. Boys like that eager fellow—reportedly nick-named "Psycho" by some of his comrades—who ignored procedures to get "a kill," his target being a group of Canadian soldiers carrying out known exercises.

(Canadians, by the way, will be grateful that their county's modest contribution to insanity in the mountains will end soon. America browbeat its allies into playing supporting roles, hoping to give vengeance the color of a genuine international cause. It was easier this time than it was for Vietnam owing to people's initial, instinctive sympathy for those killed September 11. But one remembers the story of how Lyndon Johnson grabbed Prime Minister Lester Pearson, winner of the Nobel peace prize, by the lapels and tried intimidating him into contributing troops for Vietnam. Thank God, Pearson stood his ground against the Texas thug.)

In December of last year, U.S. planes mistakenly attacked a convoy of tribal elders in Afghanistan, killing 65 people. There were reports that this ugly incident had an even uglier origin: Americans had been deliberately tricked by one of the cut-throat factions now ruling the country into eliminating some political opposition. Since then there have been many lethal attacks on the wrong people.

Now we have the report of a wedding party in southern Afghanistan blown to bits. The government in Afghanistan reports 40 killed, including the bride and groom, and 100 injured, by some trigger-happy fly-boy undoubtedly trying to clutch Psycho's fallen laurels. (Actually this was the second wedding party attacked, the first was in eastern Afghanistan in May with 10 killed.)

I suppose we can be grateful that the Pentagon much earlier gave up its disgusting stunt of dropping food-ration packets along with



art by Charley Depner

500-pound bombs. Imagine bags of freeze-dried rice dropped on the bodies of the bride and groom!

Does anyone understand why American planes are still bombing Afghanistan? Oh, yes, I forgot: to destroy any elusive al Qaeda who might still be clambering the rocky slopes in sandals threatening New York. And it makes such good sense to do this with bombs from the air where you cannot distinguish a cleric from a warrior, a rifle from a hoe. Perhaps al Qaeda members should wear transponders for easy identification.

Recent stories from Britain reveal the utter contempt in which American tactics are held by senior officials there—information suppressed until now by the heavy hand of Prime Minister Tony Blair who seems keen to play dwarf armor-polisher to America's idiot-prince. The tactics in question include American special forces in Pakistan and border areas of Afghanistan conducting searches for hidden al Qaeda by breaking into village homes with weapons ablaze, completely oblivious to the fact that this is not a part of the world where arrogant, insulting behavior is easily forgiven.

Can you imagine what a hellish storm of vengeance and terror Northern Ireland would have reaped had British troops behaved that way? In more than a quarter century of civil unrest in Northern Ireland, bad as it was, fewer people died on all sides than the



number killed in Afghanistan by Americans during just a few months. You might think Americans had some valuable lessons to learn from Britain's long, demanding experience in Northern Ireland, but the kind of Americans in Bush's crowd already know everything, possessing wisdom magically sprung from the head of Zeus.

Not that you'd know it from America's limp press, but it does appear that the country's special forces, whose every member has more expensive outfits and fancy equipment than the deluxe jet-set, celebrity edition of Barbie, have pretty much come up short in every significant operation so far.

Except, of course, for the massacre at Mazar-I-Sharif. Scots filmmaker Jamie Doran has shown parliamentarians in Europe the first portion of his documentary on the disappearance of about three thousand prisoners after their surrender. The film has terrible things to say of American participation. Hundreds of Taliban prisoners were driven in vans out into the desert by order of a local American commander, and those not suffocated by the heat were shot dead by General Dostum's troops while Americans casually watched.

A secret report released to the *New York Times* indicates that even American authorities know what a failure the war has been. It has only succeeded in dispersing anti-American terrorists throughout the Muslim world.

The actual membership of al Qaeda was always very small—far smaller than your average Chicago street gang, for example—and never bore any relation to the addled claims of Mr. Bush. They might have been dealt with handily by a set of intelligent policies and diplomatic moves rather than a mindless crusade costing tens of billions of dollars.

The recent, much-publicized Loya Jirga, a grand council of delegates from all over Afghanistan, did little more than set up a temporary figurehead government, a kind of national fig leaf for the nakedness of the war lords who now rule most of the country. Astute readers will rightly ask how delegates could possibly have been chosen in any representative fashion from regions governed by warlords, places that are no-go areas for foreign troops.

At least now the way is clear for America, in its usual end-of-bombing fashion, to hightail it out after a decent interval. Ari Fleischer will blubber claims of having brought democracy to Afghanistan. Who knows, maybe Billy Graham will join in with prayers of thanksgiving before a joint session of Congress for all the swarthy heathens killed. Only the keen political sensibilities of George Orwell could have fully appreciated America's second wave of destruction in Afghanistan being celebrated as an achievement.

All these developments—Afghanistan left in turmoil, warlords in control, stupid tactics creating many more angry young men seeking vengeance, the dispersal of anti-American leaders—together with the ugly new line on the Palestinians that the weak Mr. Bush has been cornered into accepting, promise little peace or security for anyone. It's almost as though Ariel Sharon had been named

special advisor to the president, and a stunning appointment it is: a man who has spent his life killing innocent people as an envoy for peace.

I reflect back to the Pentagon general who announced not so very long ago, as the forces of the Northern Alliance bravely swept across a landscape first cleared by American carpet-bombing, that this promised to be one of the most effective military actions in history. Here was a case of "pride goeth before the fall" if ever there was.

Of course, you must take account of the fact that he spoke from the perspective of half a century of costly, unprincipled, and often inept American colonial military action—the murderous shame of Vietnam; the pointless destruction in Cambodia; the almost-laughable theater of the absurd in Somalia; the marines providing live targets in Lebanon; the Army's School of the Americas training the creatures of dictators in the fine points of torture and killing; the destruction of an Iranian civilian airliner with three-hundred souls aboard (an act which also deserves rarely-given credit for the reprisal destruction of the Pan-Am Lockerbie flight); the sinking of a Japanese civilian ship, the vicious fly-boy pranks that hurled an Italian gondola full of people down a mountain; and the numerous rapes and assaults by troops in Okinawa.

The general's breast swelled with the proud reflection that Americans had been so stunningly successful where the Russians had miserably failed. Of course, he ignored the fact that Russia attempted something quite different to what America has attempted. He also ignored the fact that the Russians worked against a vast secret war waged by the CIA, whose activities in Afghanistan are what made September 11 possible. But most of all, he arrogantly ignored the fact that the play in Afghanistan has not gone beyond the first scene of the first act.

A final note of irony: How sound is government now in Afghanistan? In early July, just after this piece was written, the Minister for Public Works, Abdul Qadir, who also served as one of three vice-presidents, was assassinated in Kabul. Last April in Jalalabad, there was an attempt to assassinate Mohammad Fahim, Interim Defense Minister. In February, Abdul Rahman, Civil Aviation Minister, was assassinated at the airport in Kabul, other ministers being implicated in his death. Readers should note that Kabul, where two of these assassinations occurred, is the most secure part of the country.

Despite their over-advertised nastiness, this is exactly the anarchy that the Taliban ended before American bombing ended the Taliban. So far as we know, the Taliban had nothing to do with September 11, and they were willing to extradite Osama bin Laden and others upon America's producing evidence of their guilt, a universally-accepted practice in legal extradition. But this was not acceptable to Mr. Bush, and, apart from its many other costly failures, his crusade in Afghanistan has not produced bin Laden. ❧

*John Chuckman is a Columnist for YellowTimes.org (Canada) and encourages your comments: jchuckman@YellowTimes.org*



# TOP PICKS

Below represents the "best of" music that was reviewed for this issue as determined by IMPACT press music reviewers.



**As Friends Rust** • *A Young Trophy Band In The Parlor Of Our Times* • **Equal Vision** • The continued evolution of AFR takes another giant step forward. While the recent release was amazing, I felt something, just a little something, was missing; this release has found it. 6 songs that you won't get sick of anytime soon, as AFR create a good blend of all things good, emo-core with all the right kinds of rock and roll. "Where The Wild Things Were" is already becoming one of those songs I fast-forward mix tapes to hear. (KM)

**Astrobotnia** • 3-album sampler • **Rephlex Records** • Rumor has it that the identity of the mysterious musician behind Astrobotnia is Ovoca, and that Richard D. James (Aphex Twin) is also involved. The fact is, these three albums are worth getting, no matter who the author is. Each track from this sampler covers one album, and each has its own style. Disc one covers more ambient territory, with some sporadic beats thrown in and dark samples. Disc two moves into more danceable territory, with Rephlex-style breakbeats and an Aphex Twin influence. Disc three is the middle ground between the two, a fast paced set with sometimes-quirky sounds and waves of synths. All the hype surrounding this release is well deserved. (AL)

**Atmosphere** • *God Loves Ugly* • **Rhymesayers Entertainment** • Looking to inspire from the depths of Minneapolis, lyricist Slug and producer Ant are back to complicate your mind with ironies in life, deep conceptual stories and head-nodding beats. Although the verdict is still out on the comparison to their last disc (*Lucy Ford LP*) this release is well worth the listen. Slug spits relentlessly and comes off like a hermit who is fond of being a loner, yet tired of being left alone. He opens the title track with "I wear my scars like the rings on a pimp" and if that's the case, both hands are covered with gold, or scars for that matter. This whole project is deep and creative and is an honest insight into an individuals mind. On "Saves The Day" he rhymes "I sleep next to women that I don't deserve/they like to hurt my pride/ while I work they nerves...I'm just waitin' for the moment I can break away/the only reason that I stay/so I can save the day." Check this disc out and remember that no matter what, God loves your ugly ass. (JC)

**Autechre** • *Gantz Graf EP* • **Warp Records** • People fall into two categories: those who think Autechre are musical geniuses, and those who think it is all a pile of random noises. If you are in the latter category, I hear Michael Bolton has a new CD. For the rest of you, read on. The CD features three never before heard tracks, with enough layers of sounds to drown you. There are hints of melodies and even syncopated beats! Listen closely and you'll hear them. Of course, these guys tend to go off the deep end at times, and the title track does just that. It's almost as if they decided to reject any sound longer than half a second. Also included is a DVD with three stunning videos, "Gantz Graf," "Bass Cadet" and the Chris Cunningham directed "Second Bad Vibel." This last one was completely remade for this release and has never been seen in this form. "Gantz Graf" is completely computer animated, and has just about every single sound affecting a portion of the video. Think about that for a moment. (AL)

**David Jacobs-Strain** • *Stuck on the Way Back* • **NorthernBlues Music** • WHAT?!?!? This dude was born in 1983?! Get the "8^%" out of here! Wow. That's impressive. This is an outstanding CD for you blues guitar lovers out there. You'll eat this up with a big-ass biscuit. This dude can wail, both on the acoustic and on the mic. He plays some mean slide guitar, picks holes in the strings and jams like a 50 year-old veteran. "Linin' Track" is flat-out, foot-stompin' good and "Poor Boy" starts as a slow, weepy number but turns into a feverish, wailing anthem. He has influences ranging from Taj Mahal and Robert Johnson to African, Indian and Middle Eastern stylings, and even sounds like he was

classically trained at some point. This kid has more talent in his left pinky than every band on radio right now. If you want to hear music, REAL music, buy this. This is the art at its purest. (SH)

**De La Hoya** • *Wipe The Slate Clean* • **BD Records** • No, this is not Oscar De La Hoya's crap ass music. This is four tracks of punk perfection from the now-defunct New York four-piece. For over four years, these guys fucking tore shit up. Unfortunately, I missed the bus and didn't get onboard the De La Hoya bandwagon until after they had broken up – damn me! Regardless, this is outstanding material not to miss. They play a style that combines amazing vocals (at times akin of Fifteen's Jeff Ott) with the political punk intensity of Strike Anywhere and At The Drive-In and a knack for being catchy without being at all poppy. My only complaint is that there are only four songs (although track four is so good it gets bonus credit). So, you'll have to do what I did – go and order their past releases! Or, check out the guitarist's new band, Nakatomi Plaza – they rock, too! (CM)

**From Safety To Where** • *Irreversible Trend* • **Radical Records** • Math rock meets emo meets noise core meets jazz on this ten-track release from three South Carolina musicians. The guitar work is piercing and active, taking the listener on a journey with each new track. Vocally, the songs vary but utilize well-sung vocals, screaming and more-spoken style delivery. In every case, it works and acts to enhance the music, the structured chaos, if you will. For the most part, these ten tracks are uptempo and forward driving, moving you onward with each bass line and drum pound. Because these guys combine so many styles, it's hard to really compare them flatly. However, there are sounds on here reminiscent of such bands as Pilot to Gunner, Pinehurst Kids, Unwound, Fugazi, At The Drive-In, Modest Mouse, Disemberment Plan and Joy Division. (CM)

**Gina Young** • *Intractable* • **28 Days Records** • It's a fitting album title for a rebellious singer/songwriter release from such a proactive, headstrong artist. Gina Young is a creative vocalist, using angst, aggression and her beautiful voice to pack a punch despite the mostly simple, lo-fi style of music. This album combines elements of folk and punk rock to create an unyielding style that is wholly original. She'll definitely get compared to such artists as Liz Phair and Ani DeFranco, but no such comparisons do her justice. The guitar melodies and bass lines are fantastic while the oft-social/political lyrics are delivered more uniquely than any vocalist I've heard. Outside of music, Gina is an activist, campaigning for feminist causes as well as gay/lesbian/bisexual/transgender issues. This is a woman with powerful music backed up with powerful messages – that's a rare combination in today's world of watered-down musicians. (CM)

**Grain USA** • *Billboard* • **Disposable Pop Revolution Records** • Goofy Ass shtick plays very well with me. This is really wonderfully silly stuff, but it is good music. There are, sadly, only 3 songs on this disc that will make it hard to listen to for hours, but I'm strongly tempted to. Rock and roll sort of like The Kinks. Tasty. As the CD says: These boys have the chops for Star Search. (MK)

**Ingram Hill** • *Until Now* • **Traveler Records** • Kick ass!!! I like this a lot. This is non-pretentious, straight-ahead rock. There are no frills, no tricks, no gizmos. This is just some guys, their gear and some tunes. I'm a Tonic fan so I was thrilled to see Emerson Hart listed with production credits on this disc. They remind me of Tonic at times, of a rocking Hootie at others, maybe some Edwin McCain, as well as Better Than Ezra, whom they happen to have some summer dates with. They have some southern twang to them, which is refreshing with all the corporate "8^%" out there. This band definitely has the stuff to make it. The songs are tight and just different enough to keep you guessing, but never straying far from their rock/bluesy roots. This is a great find. You read it here first!!! (SH)

**Jean Grae** • *Attack Of The Attacking Things* • **Third Earth Music** • Unlike any female emcee that has held the mic (or few other emcees for that matter) this artist spits raw, visually graphic flows that contain strong lyricism and intelligent concepts. The soulful backdrop alongside 70's R&B and funk are a perfect soundscape for hard hitting beats and an attitude that is caught between ghetto and passionate without using sex as the focal point. It doesn't take long to become entranced by her view of the world through stories about taking chances in life and urging the young to see beyond their reality and "stop pretending your flesh is a metal" and your hood is the magnet...if your peoples hold you back/they're not your peoples at all." This disc comes off, as being true to who the artist is and is an example of using creativity to it's fullest, everything fits from beginning to end. Of course production from Mr. Len (of Company Flow), Masta Ace and Da Beatminerz helps make a great idea become even better. (JC)

**Midnight Thunder Express** • *self-titled* • **Empty Records U.S.** • This is straight up rock and roll. Piano that makes your knuckles hurt just listening to it, screaming guitar riffs and background hand claps. This is what the Rolling Stones would sound like if they could still do anything. This is one of the best, most heavy hitting rock and roll discs I've heard since Back in Black. (MK)

**Squarepusher** • *Do You Know Squarepusher* • **Warp Records** • Musical schizophrenic Tom Jenkinson always delivers something unexpected, which prompts the listener to answer "not really" to the question posed by this album's title. For this double CD, he recorded 7 tracks that sound melodic and almost subdued when compared to the spastic *Go Plastic*. In particular, there is a cover of Joy Division's "Love Will Tear Us Apart," complete with vocals, which is quite the pop song. The second CD is a live recording of a tour stop in Japan while promoting *Go Plastic*, in which he kept yelling at the stunned crowd to "make some fucking noise!" Compare the two discs and you'll understand why Jenkinson is so unpredictable. (AL)

**Sunday's Best** • *The Californian* • **Polyvinyl** • Sometimes bands put together collections of songs, and that's all they are, just a bunch of songs packaged together, and then sometimes a band will release something that is more, something that is a complete experience. "The Californian" is just that. This is the release you pour through CD store shelves hoping to discover. The artwork sets the stage, and then the songs take you places. Sort of an emo-pop experience that doesn't forget to bring some rock in when it needs it, Sunday's Best created something beautiful here. (KM)

**Superdrag** • *Last Call for Vitriol* • **Arena Rock Recording Co.** • In an alternate universe, where well-written melodic, guitar rock is all the rage, Superdrag is all over the radio, television, and whatever other media outlets are available in this alternate universe. *Last Call for Vitriol* is the latest hook-laden Superdrag release that will probably be overlooked by mainstream America. The major labels and MTV may have given up on these guys, but they just keep plugging away with great Beatle-esque and Matthew Sweet guitar pop. Do your part, and show these guys some love. (CL)

**Trabant** • *Moment of Truth* • **Thule Musik** • If you like Air and Kraftwerk, you should already be in your car, going to the store to buy Trabant's *Moment of Truth*. Tons of old keyboards and synths are combined with a space rock vibe and a pop feel, topped off with sparse vocals. There are so many layers, you'll fall into a trance trying to hear them all. (AL)

**Zola Sings the Jon Seiff Songbook** • *On the Blue Side* • **Jon Seiff** • This disc is major chill. It's like a forty-five minute lullaby of fantastic blues/jazz/pop ballads. The centerpiece is the vocal renderings of the magnificent Zola, who touches this album with golden goodness and a shining talent. The inspired lyrics are delivered with clarity, heart, and wistful passion. (DP)



# ☆ quickies...a little bit on a lot of records ☆

## CD releases

**Adventures in Tourism** • *demo EP* • self-released • Featuring Russell Mofsky (from the pop-punk band Quilt) on guitar, keyboards and vocals, these four songs are a solid set of mostly-acoustic, singer/songwriter tunes. Mofsky's style is in the vein of Elliot Smith and Dashboard Confessional, heartfelt emotional tunes that are infectious and absorbing. For a demo, this is both a strong work of musical skill and of superior recording quality. (CM)

**Against Mel** • *Reinventing Axl Rose* • No Idea Records • This is punk rock with a folk edge to it. Eleven songs that are perfect for singing along while drinking some beers, particularly the singalong choruses. Do you like Billy Bragg or Stiff Little Fingers? Then get *Reinventing Axl Rose*. (AL)

**Alias Clark** • *Good Times...EP* • self-released • Central Florida's Alias Clark offers up their first release, a four-song EP that showcases their power pop abilities and gives a hint of their live show silliness. Having seen them a few times, I can attest that they deliver a rockin' show with a hell of a lot of good times to be had for all. They play pop with a punch that doesn't break any new ground, but instead use a strong blue print to deliver extremely solid tunes that get in your head, make your toes tap and put a bounce in your step. (CM)

**All-Time Quarterback!** • *All-Time Quarterback!* • Barsuk Records • All-Time Quarterback! is a side project of Death Cab for Cutie frontman Ben Gibbard. Naturally, this album sounds like the Cab de Death, recorded in somebody's bedroom on a four-track. Gibbard, the indie rock vocal twin of Pet Shop Boy Neil Tennett (listen to DCFB's "Movie Script Ending," and you'll hear what I'm talking about), delivers a collection of bare bones, lo-fi melancholy pop tunes. But isn't that what Gibbard does best? (CL)

**An Automotive** • *self-titled* • Six Gun Lover Records • Featuring members of Joan of Arc, Nymb, The Firebird Band, Sidekick Calo and Ghosts n' Vodka, An Automotive take elements from jazz, electronica and rock to create a combination of indie and post rock songs. Playful synths add a retro-futuristic sound to the jangly guitar based tracks. The vocals didn't do much for me, which is why I preferred the instrumental tracks. (AL)

**Angeles Drake** • *self-titled* • Threadbare Records • Coming soon to a radio station near you, this five-piece from California. Well, not necessarily. But their sound is made for the radio with their upfront, strong male vocals and a sound that can rock out but is still sensitive (sensitive=somewhat-country/folk jangle) – maybe along the lines of such bands as Counting Crows, Creed and Seven Mary Three. It's plenty good for what it is; the vocals are commendable and the music is melodic and well produced. But there's nothing that'll knock you outta your socks or make you say, "Wow, this sounds different." (CM)

**Aquanote** • *The Pearl* • Astralwerks • The man responsible for Aquanote is Gabriel Rene, who also cofounded the critically acclaimed Soulstice with Andy Caldwell. His ideal for this album was to create songs that could work if sang with nothing more than a guitar. He enlisted the help of a few female vocalists and then added the electronic beats that make this album danceable as well as singable. *The Pearl* combines a bit of hip hop, broken beat and Latin-influenced house, all under the umbrella of soul music. (AL)

**Army Of Ponch** • *So Many You Could Never Will* • No Idea • Andre the Giant may have a posse, but Francis Poncherello has an army, a damn fine talented one at that. Another something great out of Gainesville, FL, but by no means a copy cat of anything currently available in that scene. Drawing influences from a myriad of good sources, the Army of Ponch are here to pillage the countryside. (KM)

**Aspects of Physics** • *Systems of Social Calibration* • Impulor? Records • Aspects of Physics came about from the remains of the post-rock hypnotic band, Physics, which had no problem recording 10+ minute songs of repeating guitar layers. AOP take this sound and add to it elements from IDM (Autechre, Aphex Twin) to bring it into this century, furthering their need to experiment with sounds and music. (AL)

**Ben Weasel** • *Fidatevi* • Panic Button • Underground legend, Ben Weasel, known best for his days as the frontman of Screeching Weasel, comes back with his first solo album. It sounds just like you might expect it would, like Screeching Weasel, but with a little maturity and guile, a bit more substance and craft. All the good things that Screeching Weasel fans might expect are there

as well; the signature raw pop-punk sounds and the sandpaper smooth vocals are still evident. (KM)

**Bloodjinn** • *Leave This World Breathing* • Goodfellow Records • Insane metalcore from North Carolina. They lean toward the metal side, but they also incorporate black metal and grind here and there. The level of intensity never slows down except for the almost out of place song, "The Last Cry," which sounds like it was written by Death Cab for Cutie! (AL)

**Blue** • *Something Borrowed Something* • Sanity Check Music • The roadhouse blues on this release is packed with energy and attitude in a 'balls to the wall' kinda way. On the 8th release from this one-man band, the music here sounds at times like Danzig, The Doors, Elvis Presley or any number of rockability and hard rock blues players of the past. This release is a bit more amped up than his previous offerings as he ventures into different elements such as using an organ, new bass line and sampled horns on a rowdy rendition of "Hound Dog." This whole thing sounds good and is a bit more edgy and experimental than your basic blues set. (JC)

**Boom Bip** • *Seed To Sun* • Lex Records • This almost feels like a compilation of songs by different artists, instead of a CD by one person, in this case Bryan Hollon (Boom Bip). He switches from jazzy IDM ala Squarepusher, to beatless ambient, to hip-hop (with Doseone on the mic) and even a bit of guitar riffing. His sampling of string and horn instruments blends well with the futuristic effects strewn all over the tracks. (AL)

**Box The Compass** • *Run The Easting Down* • Substandard • This CD has all the elements that made Hot Water Music's "Fuel For The Hate Game" one of my favorite records, the rough vocals, and the music that teeters on the edge of complete chaos only to come around and save it with a great chorus. Orchestrated with some true to form indie rock elements, but hard hitting when it matters, this one is worth checking out. (KM)

**Bratmobile** • *Girls Get Busy* • Lookout • Bratmobile is a first-generation Riot Grrrl band. They were part of the original Riot Grrrl phenomenon in the early nineties. They broke up in 1994 and reformed just two years ago, much wiser and experienced. This, their second release since reforming, remains true to their roots, and is a powerful indie girl pop album oozing with sweet, sweet feminism. (DP)

**Bright Calm Blue** • *Asymmetry Set* • Divot • I couldn't think of a more ironic name for this band. There isn't anything bright or calm about them. Chaotic indie rock feel, with melodic guitars swarming a throaty impassioned cry for help. Almost hardcore or even screamo, but the artistic approach separates it from your run of the mill. (KM)

**Cadillac Blindside** • *These Liquid Lungs* • Fueled by Ramen Records • If there's one quality that describes Cadillac Blindside, it's intensity. Whether playing a catchy, melodic tune, or a screaming punk rocker, their energy never comes down. With bands like Dashboard Confessional and Dillinger Escape Plan gaining national attention, it's just a matter of time before these guys take over the airwaves. (AL)

**Caesura** • *More Specific, Less Pacific* • Fifty-Four Forty or Fight! • This album is put together well and features heavy bass lines, tight percussion and psychotic vocal screams and rants. The rushing sound of rock from this San Francisco trio is full of consistent power. The aggression is not overun though; the band manages to stray into a more melodic territory at times with instrumental improvising while keeping their piercing sound and mystery intact. The energy on this disc would make for a pretty kick-ass live show. (JC)

**Cage** • *Movies For The Blind* • Eastern Conference Records • Spending time in a psychiatric facility as a kid has prepared this emcee to unleash his love and hate, good and evil unto the world. The emotions and sounds within this collection go well beyond his work with Smut Peddlers as Cage rambles on about killing his stepfather, cutting his wrists and taking shots at Eminem as part of their ongoing debate on who has copped whose style. That's right, if you don't know, now you do, the shock value is similar to the Shady one (if not the other way around) but regardless, this release is sub-par with bright spots coming from tracks "Agent Orange" and "Too Much." (JC)

**Cave 76** • *Arizona* • Sonic Boom Recordings • Sometimes grungy and all-the-time Seattle pop rock, these songs are full of break-ups, broken hearts and internal conflicts. These four guys made it through a number of bands in the Northwest including Feed, Old Man, Cannibal Bus and So Long, before settling down with each other to put this project together. The title track and "I Hate

You" stand out. (JC)

**Champion** • *Count Out Numbers* • Bridge Nine • With their roots firmly in the straight-edge hardcore genre, Champion are talented and creative enough to not bore me like most bands of the genre can and do. They don't rely too much on the old hat, but instead borrow from it while still creating something that is interesting and skull crushing. This EP continues to expose Champion as a coming force in hardcore, high fives all around. (KM)

**Che Chapter 127** • *Profit Prophet* • G7 Welcoming Committee • If you wanted to find a musical way to scare corporate rock and shake the foundations of the New World Order, this might be in the running for such a task. Straightforward punk and hardcore, 90's style with a touch of the new. Che are representative of all things good about revolutionary punk music. (KM)

**Christiansen** • *Forensics Brothers and Sisters* • Revelation Records • It's hard to follow in the musical legacy of Louisville, Christiansen make a noble attempt, but sadly don't create anything memorable with this release. Sounding like a Louisville band that is versed in the Fugazi songbook, there is some power and some passion here, and something that makes me to wonder how these songs might be live. This one might grow on me, but for now I only find it average. (KM)

**Circle Jerks** • *Wild In The Streets* • Porterhouse Records • In 1982, the Circle Jerks released their second album. This is a re-release of that album with songs remixed and enhanced CD-ROM stuff added. Normally, I'd say let the album rest. However, this is a great punk record that really documents the early-80s punk scene. The Circle Jerks were able to combine a catchy punk sound with sarcastic and socially-aware lyrics. The great thing about this album is that, despite being 20 years old, it could go toe to toe with all the big names in today's world of punk rock music (and blow away most of 'em). (CM)

**Combat Wounded Veteran** • *Duck Down for the Torso* • No Idea Records • The Melvins-esque riffs of opening track "67. Activate the Corpses" suddenly spiral into chaos as Ponch screams unintelligible phrases that pierce like daggers. The mood of this album is somewhat like Converge's *Jane Doe*, only this one is 15 minutes long. (AL)

**Cursive/ Eastern Youth** • *8 Teeth To Eat You* • Better Looking Records • Split CD's make for strange bedfellows sometimes, and this one proves the premise. Cursive a sort of Cure-ish emo sound combined with Eastern Youth, who sound just like a band you love, but they sing in Japanese which, while being novel, is difficult to sing along to. This CD will sell well because Cursive fans will line up for this, but sadly the Eastern Youth selections which are more creative and interesting will go mostly unheard I'm sure. (KM)

**Dabrye** • *Instrmntl* • Eastern Developments Music • Since the release of his debut CD *One/Three*, Dabrye has changed some things and left others intact. His beats are still lethargic and minimalist, but he has added more effects and sounds to flatten up his tracks. Of course, his emphasis is hip-hop, but some deviate from the formula into more bouncy territory. (AL)

**Dag Nasty** • *Minority of One* • Revelation Records • Out of the picture for several years now, Dag Nasty is back with brand new material. They were a mainstay of the mid-late '80s punk scene with such classic albums as *Can I Say* and *Wig Out At Denkos*. I have always been a big fan so I was very excited to hear they were back together (Brian Baker, Dave Smalley, Roger Marbury and Colin Seans) and releasing new tunes. This album does not disappoint. It's going to be hard for any band to compete with a previous album as classic as *Can I Say*. Instead, *Minority of One* reestablishes Dag Nasty as a legitimate punk band with punchy songs loaded with melody and a heartfelt intensity – it's kind of like Bad Religion meets Minor Threat doing emo stuff. Smalley does a fantastic job on vocals and the musical skills of the other three guys shows through on every track. This album won't disappoint past fans and will win over plenty of new fans. (CM)

**Dale Morningstar** • *I Grew Up On Sodom Road* • Sonic Unyon • Dale is from the band the Dinner Is Ruined, but this marks his first true entry into the world of solo artists. It's a collection of 15 indie rock songs with a lot of jangle and heartfelt lyrics galore. At times he reminds me of Tom Waits, other times J Mascis and yet other times Bob Dylan. Some of the tunes are more acoustic ditties while others are pretty hard rockin' bits of Americana. From the sound of it, Dale is ready to take on world as a solo act. (CM)

**Danielson Famile** • *A Prayer for Every Hour* • Secretly Canadian • In 1994, the Danielson Famile (pronounced family) released their debut, and left everyone wondering just what the



# ☆ quickies...a little bit on a lot of records ☆

hell was going on. Influenced by bands like the Pixies, Half Japanese and Ween, their music can only be described as a carnival of sounds based in folk and gospel, with frontman Daniel's high pitched squeal for vocals. This album has now been reissued, including a CD-ROM portion with a few quirky videos. (AL)

**Dashboard Confessional • Summer Kiss EP • Eulogy** • It's almost strange to even write a Dashboard Confessional review, since you either love them or they make your stomach turn. The last EP I reviewed I actually liked, but the charm ended and I couldn't recommend this one for anything. The acoustic emo pity party just gets too old too soon. (KM)

**Dead And Gone • The Beautician • Gold Standard Laboratories** • I didn't really know you could be melodic and still make music that goes straight for the eardrum till I heard this new disc from West Coast dark hardcore kingpins Dead & Gone. Sometimes creepy, all the time potent and effective in driving it deep. Imagine a lightweight, stripped down Neurosis welded into a hardcore chassis. (KM)

**Declaime Presents: Mad Men • Mad Men On Arrival E.P. • Groove Attack** • Not bad for a weekend session in Vegas with a rented 8-track recorder and sampler. Declaime has recruited Kan Kick and Poppy to take it back to the days of low budget, raw hip hop over beats, cuts and scratches from Kan Kick and DJ Kut L. The title track is bagin' as is 'Mad Mad World' but the overall set sounds recycled from somewhere. (JC)

**Delta Dart • Fight or Flight • Paroxysm Records** • Delta Dart formed in the spring of 1999 and have been crafting their sound ever since then. The female trio hails from Los Angeles, but also spends time in Olympia, Washington. Their sound is a combination of styles, from punk to pop to indie rock to classic rock. They are a raw, powerful band that reminds me at times of Al The Drive-In meets Bikini Kill, but maybe a little more lo-fi and, at times, more sensitive. Their songs vary from mellow to poppy to hard rocking. Melodies are thick on nearly every track, buoyed by strong vocals and a knack for using a garage-noise style to their advantage. These 13 tunes are diverse, heartfelt, and infectious. (CM)

**Diesel T.V. • self-titled • self-released** • If 2002 was the year of Nickelback, there's no reason 2003 can't be the year of Diesel T.V. They've got the hooks, they've got the talent, and for a three-piece band they sound every bit as big as the aforementioned band and its sound-alikes. I think they're just a little, LITTLE, bit raw yet. By the time they release a full CD (this is an EP), they should be primed to hit the arena circuit. Keep your ears peeled rock radio! If 'Amazing,' a Goo-Goo Dolls-esque ballad, isn't in heavy rotation across the US within a year, I'll be amazed! (SH)

**Disband / Kudzu Wish • At the Scene of the Accident split • Ernest Jennings Record Co.** • Disband sounds like a combination of Braid and the Dismemberment Plan. Yes, that is a good combination. Maybe it's more the former than the latter. Regardless, it's some good shit. There are four guys in the band and you get five tracks – not a bad deal. Next up, Kudzu Wish. This quintet is skillful at not letting you pigeonhole their sound. But I'll try – it's chaotic at times, organized at others. The melodies are there, but sometimes hard to find. It's jazzy and emotional and quirky, hardcore and angry. But really, no matter what it's comprised of, the end result is original as fuck and a treat for your ears. (CM)

**Divorcee • Lovesick • self-released** • With a solid British pop feel, this Minneapolis quartet is sure to get some radio and label attention. Their tunes are tight, smooth and poppy, using a flowing sound to ease the listener in. Before you know it, you're hooked. At times they sound like Coldplay, other times they sound like Material Issue. It's a strong debut from a band that you'll probably hear more about. (CM)

**Don't Look Down • Start The Show • Iguana Records** • If you're looking for a hearty dose of melodic, catchy power punk, Don't Look Down! (Clever, eh?) This Jersey-based four piece puts hooks in all the right places, has vocals that will make punk rock girls drool and enough angst and creativity to make 'em better than your standard radio rock crap. Musically, they sound like they're influenced by such bands as Blink, Jimmy Eat World, Sum 41 and The Get Up Kids. This isn't ground breaking, but it's really tight and pretty hard to resist. (CM)

**El Gato • We're Birds • Motherload Music** • What you have hear is some ethereal, almost emo, pop-rock. It's not just straight rock, there are a lot of layers and sounds in here. Fans of Grandaddy and Built to Spill will like this. This is another of

those "grow on you" CD's. You may not love it to pieces on the first play, but you'll learn to enjoy it the more you listen to it. It's almost like a Moody Blues for 2002. I dig it! (SH)

**Examination of the... • We Are the Architects of Desire • Forge Again Records** • Examination of the... are not concerned about song structures or patterns. They just want to destroy their instruments, and your ears as well. This is one of the most intense albums I have heard this year. I heard elements of Converge in there, particularly in the vocals and in the way the songs change constantly. (AL)

**Face Tomorrow • For Who You Are • Reflections Records** • Dutch emo rockers, Face Tomorrow have an almost addictive sound. With vocals that take a spectrum from an almost Radiohead-esque soft mumble, to a scream that burns with passion and undeniable truth and unrelenting drums and guitars, Face Tomorrow bring the real deal. If you like Thursday, Rival Schools, or At The Drive In, add this to the next shopping list. (KM)

**Faith Kleppinger • Asleep in the Well • Two Sheds** • This is a super-soft, pensive collection of songs, a "stripped-down, woozy, late night drift through softly-sung stories." The very essence of Kleppinger's acoustic ballads is one of quiet, wistful, gentle hope in a shadowy world. It invites the listener to a safe place for a little while to have a drink with a stranger. (DP)

**First Grade Crush • Our Time Down Here • Jump Up! Records** • Seven guys?! Seven?!?! It's a big sound so I guess they've got a lot of dudes in this band. FGC is a rockin' ska/hardcore band. This release is very slick production-wise but manages to bring out the metal/emo influences there. They sound a bit like Fishbone, Less Than Jake and Rocket From The Crypt. I especially dig the horns they incorporate. It steadies the sound when they're on the verge of chaos. Cool disc! (SH)

**Fonzie • Built to Rock • Jump Start Records** • As proof that punk rock is a global phenomenon, turn your attention to Fonzie. These guys from Portugal have the melodic power punk formula down to a science. Fans of Blink-182, The Ataris, Digger and the Mr. T Experience will eat this up. (AL)

**Fordirelifesake • self-titled EP • Forge Again Records** • It's refreshing to see a band that experiments with their sound instead of confining themselves to some formula. If you like metalcore, you'll like them. However, they are not afraid of inserting violins in their songs, or having a beautiful acoustic guitar track. Almost all the members of the band scream the lyrics at different times, so the vocals sound varied. The only drawback is that there are only four songs on this EP. (AL)

**Friend/Enemy • 10 Songs • Perishable Records** • Friend or enemy? Well, that depends. Are you a fan of guitarists/songwriter/vocalist Tim Kinsella, of Cap 'n Jazz, Joan of Arc, and about a dozen other bands? Do you find any of the aforementioned bands to be arty and quirky instead of pretentious? If so, you're gonna love Friend/Enemy. If you find Kinsella's body of work to be overly pretentious, step away from this record and go buy something poppy and accessible. (CL)

**Frontside! • Tom Sawyer • Split CD • Sinister Label** • A split from two Chicago bands, Frontside who play a chaotic hardcore style, and \*Tom Sawyer play a kind of loose punk rock style. Mostly it's an odd mix, one of those couples that you always wonder how it all came about. Both bands do their thing pretty good, but nothing makes me say more than that. (KM)

**Girl Harbor • Shine On • self-released** • With the rebirth of mod music (The Strokes, The White Stripes), this NYC quartet fits right in. They combine melodic garage rock with a bit of pop and a taste of '70s guitar-work. It's a raw, fun, rock sound and it's sure to get its fair share of fans. Four of the five tracks on here are pretty rockin', with track three being the "odd man out" – a ballad that sounds like The Cure doing a '60s song. I imagine these guys have a really great live show. (CM)

**G-Man • Grin Groove • Immedia** • This guy utilizes guitar, synth and percussion to create what he proclaims to be a new genre of music. Basically 80's style dance club beats are transformed into tracks that contain spoken word sections of commentary ranging from political, social and humorous aspects. The rest is trance, dance, and goofy beats. This is a far out experiment that is good for what it is – out there. (JC)

**Go Jimmy Go • Slow Time • Jump Up! Records** • Since 1996, Go Jimmy Go has been performing traditional ska similar to Hepcat or the Skatalites. The title *Slow Time* is appropriate, since the songs tend to be on the mid tempo side. There are no special effects here, just simple tunes for some good times. (AL)

**Gogogo Airheart • ExitheUXA • Gold Standard Laboratories** • Gogogo Airheart bring to mind other groups such as the Talking Heads, The Frogs and The Flaming Lips. In one word, they are eccentric. Their recording sessions used only four microphones, so the album has a lo-fi quality. Michael Vermillion's vocals are somewhat frail and desperate. (AL)

**Grabass Charlestons / Billy Reese Peters • Split CD • No Idea Records** • Two Gainesville bands playing Gainesville punk. Both bands have similar styles, with froggy vocals and fast paced three chord guitar riffs. By the end of the album you'll want to listen to it again. They knew this, which is why the whole thing repeats! (AL)

**Hiretsukan • Invasive/Exotic • G7 Welcoming Committee** • *Invasive/Exotic* is 16 minutes of political hardcore that wastes no time before kicking your ass. The vocals are shared by Michelle and Dave, who are a few keys short of sounding like Danni Filth. The urgency is palpable, and the album closes with an awesome cover of Metallica's "Creeping Death." (AL)

**Hot Snakes • Suicide Invoice • Swami** • I haven't seen a record more anticipated among my friends, I could have sold tickets for a listen to the disc when I got it. The Hot Snakes don't disappoint, with 12 brilliant tracks of driving pounding rock and roll. If you haven't ever had the pleasure, think of them as a low-fi Girls Against Boys meeting a host of great 70's punk bands and a splash of 80's punk too. (KM)

**Howie Beck • Hollow • Devil in the Woods Records/Future Farmer Records** • Damn, if this guy doesn't sound like Elliott Smith. I'm sure Howie's probably sick of the comparison, but as a fan of Smith's work, I mean it as a compliment. The songs are exquisitely crafted melancholy pop tunes, with a touch of Freedy Johnston style all-country rock as well. Regardless of who Beck might sound like, *Hollow* is a great album. (CL)

**Hu Vibrational • Boonghee Music 1 • Eastern Developments Music** • If you wanted to make dance music with no electricity available, you'd call these guys. They make their music using dusun'goni, sintir, thumb piano, harmonium, batajan, talking drums, dumbek and flute. This gives an organic feeling to the album, not quite tribal, but not far off. You can just imagine someone dropping rhymes all over this. (AL)

**In Arcadia • All Green Lights • Handstand Records** • One of the best bands that nobody will ever know about is the now defunct Orlando band Carlisle. Joe Enos was part of the early line up of that band, and moved on to Detroit to work on some other projects... but nothing like this. Mature screamo might be the right term; contrasting quiet melodic elements, soft vocals, and a powerful blast of heart bleeding screams make this release a dark horse favorite. (KM)

**In Exile • Hangin' by a Thread • Deep Space Records** • For those about to prog rock, we salute you. *Hangin' by a Thread* is chock full of synths and loopy guitars, with dramatic vocals and all the things fans of bands like King Crimson love. They used to be called the Outcast, but felt they would be confused with rappers Outkast, so they changed their name. (AL)

**Innocence Broken/ Nodes Of Ranvier • Split CD • Winter In July** • One of the best splits to hit my desk in a long time, with Innocence Broken really showing off some great metal-emo-core. A CD that really begged to be heard over and over again. Nodes Of Ranvier showed a little something too, and round out a great package of music. I have no idea who either of these bands are, and that's the beauty of music, to be surprised by the virtual unknown. (KM)

**Jared Grabb • On the Inside • Thinker Thought Records** • Forecast frontman Jared Grabb's solo release is too much like an unfulfilled promise. Solo artists can be so hit and miss, and Grabb mostly misses. While the general nature of the disc is listenable, something prevents you from really getting into it and connecting. Vocally not strong and musically, while slightly creative, not very enjoyable. (KM)

**Jazzanova • In Between • Ropeadope Records** • Finally, these guys release an album of original material. This six man collective has become pretty well known for their remixes, and now they will become known for their own stuff. With guest vocalists Ursula Rucker, Viktor Duplaix, Doug Hammond, Hawkeye Fanatic and others, they create a blend of hip-hop, jazz, funk and soul, which is hard to ignore. (AL)

**Justin Sane • Life, Love and the Pursuit of Justice • A-F Records** • Just because the leader of Anti-Flag, Justin Sane, is backed by nothing more than a semi-distorted guitar, don't expect the songs



# ☆ quickies...a little bit on a lot of records ☆

to be any less engaging. His melodic songs deal not only with critical topics, but also more mundane topics as love, growing up or road trips. (AL)

**Kind Of Like Spitting • Bridges Worth Burning • Barsuk Records** • KOLS is one of those bands always on the lips of people, as many begging me to buy the album, as there were detractors telling me to avoid it. This release has me now firmly committed to the side begging its purchase from my friends and associates. Not always perfect, the emo-folk-rock sort of thing has a charm of sometimes being discordant or just slightly off. If KOLS was a girl, she wouldn't be a super-model, but the kind you want to borrow your oversized shirts and curl up next to you for hours while a gentle rain pours outside. (KM)

**Knuckle Sandwich • Nice • Resurrection A.D. Records** • This New Jersey quartet plays rock with punk tendencies and a bit of hardcore. The vocals are sometimes melodic, particularly during the singalong choruses. I was a bit confused about their political stance...at one point complaining about becoming the next minority, then complaining about the "men in towels" are being unfairly singled out at airports. And if you are a "tree-hugger" they don't like you. (AL)

**Knut • Challenger • Hydra Head Records** • I just finished listening to *Challenger*, and I have a loud ringing in my ear, and my hands are shaking! Swiss hardcore maniacs Knut's second album is as intense, if not more, than their first one. Didier's vocals are punishing, propelled by Jeremy and Philippe's bass and guitar work. Roderick's drums feel like hammers hitting your skull. (AL)

**Les Hommes • self-titled • Eighteenth Street Lounge Music** • As you listen to Les Hommes, you can almost picture a movie in your head. Apparently, so did they, which is why they provide "scene" descriptions for each song. Plenty of 1960's-70's bossa nova, batucadas and other organ-fueled grooves make this the perfect album for pretending to be cooler than you really are. (AL)

**Lewis • Even So • Deep Elm Records** • I would be derelict in my duties as a reviewer if I didn't tell you that Lewis sounds like Radiohead. Now that Radiohead has moved into the electronic world, it's good to see that someone is there to take their place in the rock world. Brett Tohlen's vocals are melancholic and beautiful, and the somber mood never quite goes away. No doubt, these songs are powerful. (AL)

**Life In Braille • New York City Ending • Underground Sounds Of America** • This really grows on you after a few listens, then reading into the comparison between a relationship ending and the title of the album brings it all full circle. The crisp up-and-down tempo of rock within this release is amplified by great production and a grinding drive. This 4-piece band blends instruments well and jam out behind crazy stories within creative lyrics about the downside of it all like "I hate those early mornings/cocaine and no fair warnings...between her skin and her underwear/ the mornings here are so cold/and I feel so goddamn old" from the track "Chess." With songs like "Ode To Friends I & II," "Hand Me Down" and "Flight 800" you get an idea where these Northern California guys are coming from. (JC)

**Logh • Every Time a Bell Rings an Angel Gets His Wings • Deep Elm Records** • Such a positive sounding title doesn't really match the tone of this album. The songs are sad, no question about it. Sparse arrangements give the feeling this was recorded in the middle of winter, which it partially was. Logh play their instruments softly, like they are afraid to break them. This Swedish indie rock quartet needs to go out and get some sun on their faces, and maybe they'll feel better. (AL)

**Lollipop Lust Kill • My So Called Knife • Artemis Records** • Today's radio is full of bands like Godsmack, Disturbed, Drowning Pool, and if all goes according to their plan, Lollipop Lust Kill. Taking elements from Rob Zombie, Marilyn Manson and Coal Chamber, their crunching guitars and angry vocals are accented by some melodies and gloomy sound effects. (AL)

**Love Life • Here Is Night, Brothers, Here The Birds Burn • Jagjaguwar** • Heavy, gothic, "operatic-rock" on this release is led by the morbidly crippling vocals of Katrina Ford. This band out of Baltimore has instilled trombones, violins, organs, cellos and saxophone sounds to their brand of drama-laden dark and depressive music. On their second album think along the lines of mixing Morphine and Sonic Youth and you may get an idea of what the Love Life is all about. (JC)

**Low • Trust • Kranky Records** • If you like slow songs that seem to tear your heart out from the inside, you'll love Low's *Trust*. Bordering on minimalism, their songs are crafted with beautiful

vocal harmonies and heavily reverbed guitars that evoke tumbleweeds and sandstorms. This music is heavy, but only in an emotional way. (AL)

**M-16 • Canciones Escritas En El Exilio • Mother West LLC** • For those who like their metal a little on the slower side, M-16 is for you. Originally from the Dominican Republic, they sing in Spanish, and sound like a cross between Brazil's Sepultura and Argentina's A.N.I.M.A.L. The only song in English is a cover of the Doors' "Strange Days," but don't let the language barrier stop you from experiencing their fury. (AL)

**Man Will Destroy Himself • Consume... Be Silent... Die • Extremely Baked Records** • I hear a little Black Flag, I hear a little Sick Of It All, maybe even a little Dead Kennedy's. All with a firm old school hardcore feel, some metal solos added for flavor maybe. Its genre based and won't find much of an audience beyond its target since it really doesn't scream of creativity. The heart is in the right place. Not the pick of the litter, but a tough pup none the less. (KM)

**Manifeto Jukebox • Remedy • BYO Records** • The first time I heard the raw sounds of Manifeto Jukebox I sung their praises, and this latest release won't change that any. With a refreshing sound that will take you back to the glory days of Hüsker Dü, while reminding you of bands like Hot Water Music and Farside, this trio from Finland seems to keep it coming. With rough almost pirate-like vocals and a lot of power chords and cymbals, these guys know how to make some noise. (KM)

**MegaSuperUltra • Back to Take Another Bow • Jump Up! Records** • Back to Take Another Bow is the second album from this Chicago trio. Their mod style songs are reminiscent of artists such as the Jam and Elvis Costello and the Attractions. It's a fun, albeit short record. Just one question: how can they get away with a song like "Hate the States" in this MegaSuperUltra patriotic political climate? It's only a matter of time until John Ashcroft is chasing them on scooters. (CL)

**Mexican Cheerleader • self-titled • Government Music** • A much girl on the front cover is a deceptively tranquil prelude to the full on, all six chambers explosion of rock that this disc creates. Punk? Rock? Who's to say? I will tell you that it is a great disc. Frenzied and furiously paced, like Kiss meets Sloppy Seconds. A fun party disc. (MK)

**Michael Nace • The Voyage Out • Minority Records** • Formerly working with math-rock trio Drill for Absentee, Nace plays a fascinating and brilliant brand of soft music that is wholly unclassifiable. There are influences from many different types of ethnic music here that create an unusual but comfortable flavor. His hushed vocal stylings are a perfect match for the wildly soothing instrumentation. (DP)

**Midwest Product • Specifics • Ghostly International** • Listening to Midwest Product, you get a sense that these songs are based on electro beats, but somehow they sound fuller, less machine-like. The reason is that they combine live instrumentation with electronica, to create a unique take on the genre that is more accessible. (AL)

**Miguel Migs • Colorful You • Naked Music / Astralwerks** • After a couple of well received mix CDs, Miguel Migs shows off his producing talents in his debut album, "Colorful You." His recipe is simple: two parts bouncy beats, one part lush keyboards, three parts soulful groove, and one part sensual female vocals. These fourteen soulful house tracks are sure to get even the most cynical ones up and dancing. (AL)

**Moaning Lisa • Wonderful • Veronica Records** • Okay, how's this? King Missile guitars meet some other band in an effort to turn out something good. They did. This is, for want of a better name, radio rock. There is a definite strong song structure that is augmented by strong performances by each member of the band. Oh yeah, and there's a naked chick on the front cover. (MK)

**Model American • Maps • Sessions Records** • 21 songs - 39 minutes. These guys pack a lot of energy into a few minutes per song. Hard, hard, hard punk is driven to new heights with songs that are catchy and heavy. This is a well-done disc that takes the best elements from this frequently mangled genre of music and combines them to make a really good disc. (MK)

**Morning Again • Hand of the Martyr • Eulogy Recordings** • Hand of the Martyr is two CDs in one, as it includes remastered versions of Morning Again's *Hand of Hope* and *Martyr* records. This vegan / straight edge hardcore band was one of the first to mix metal riffs with hardcore. As a bonus, this CD also includes a recording of their first-ever live set in Europe. (AL)

**Mr. Lif • I Phantom • Definitive Jux Recordings** • Picking up where the *Emergency Rations E.P.* left off, Lif pushes out his first full length with much power and has proved the rations were just a taste of the bigger meal to come. Beats are organic and change directions without warning from usual suspect E.P. as well as Faskts One, Insight, Edan and Lif himself; Aesop Rock, Jean Grae and Akrobatik also make appearances. This release has a b-boy vibe reminiscent of the late 80's that meshes with a progressive straightforward attitude. Lyrics and stories are full of visual content and delivered with flawless instincts, still on that anti-establishment tip. The only thing missing is the title track (found on E.P.) But enough is provided to keep you company like stories of working those nine to five's, trying to hold it down for family and of course those government wars. (JC)

**Nerf Herder • American Cheese • Honest Don's Record** • If you like your melodic punk with humor in the lyrics, then Nerf Herder is for you. *American Cheese* is their third album, and it is good. From the keyboard accented opener, "Welcome to my World," to the semi-nostalgic ode to a previous girlfriend in "Jacket," and a call to Jenna Bush lovers in "Jenna Bush Army," you'll soon be wanting more. (AL)

**Nicotine • Samurai Shot • Asian Man Records** • If that's NOFX, why do they look Asian? Well, 'cause it's not NOFX, but damn it sure sounds like 'em. And everyone knows they sound like NOFX and no one cares 'cause the music still rocks. This is Fat Wreck-style punk rock through and through - fast, aggressive, melodic, filled with hooks and enough angst to excite any punk rocker. This four-piece from Tokyo has been around since 1993 and have released nine albums across the globe. There are 25 songs on here, a total of over 70 minutes of rockin', good tunes. The lyrics are in English, too, so you won't get confused. If you're looking for a fun, tight punk rock album to amp you up for the next big show, throw this in the CD player and get ready to rock. (CM)

**No. 2 • What Does Good Luck Bring? • In Music We Trust Records** • Quick, name anybody else who was in Heatmiser other than Elliott Smith. Did you guess Neil Gust? Gust was the other songwriter/vocalist for Heatmiser, the band best known now for being Elliott Smith's old band. Well, Gust has rounded up some other Northwestern scene veterans to put together No. 2. This collection of energetic indie rock tunes is a reminder that Heatmiser wasn't a one-man show and that Gust is one hell of a songwriter too. (CL)

**Numbers • Numbers Life • Tigerbeat6** • Numbers throws punk attitude into synth music covered in experimentation. Obviously, there are many electronic sounds, processed vocals and just plain weird songs. There is a "dirty" quality in this recording, moving away from the more polished synth pop sounds that are becoming popular these days. (AL)

**Once Lost Pictures • Forever Always • Winter in July Records** • These guys are depressed. But, hey, doesn't depression inspire some great music sometimes? Once Lost Pictures' tales of loss and woe remind me of Sunny Day Real Estate and Dashboard Confessional. The songs are lo-fi and emo-ish, but they seem to get weighted down too much in the intense emotional nature of the material. There's no real break to the misery. (CL)

**Onward Crispin Glover • The Further and the Faster • Anodyne Records** • Is Kansas City able to handle a rockin' indie band like this? I have no clue, I've never been there. But I can tell you, OCG plays some really tight rock and roll that is heavy on guitar, in a good way. These guys are definitely ready to hit the college airwaves, if they haven't already. And, I wouldn't be surprised if they got a bit of attention from some major labels and mainstream radio. This 11-track debut is loaded with melody and emotion, two essential ingredients to crafting strong indie pop rock. Feast your ears on this. (CM)

**Orbiter • Sparks on a String • Loveless Records** • Orbiter is the perfect gateway band to more synth oriented pop. Their melodies are beautiful, and they have just enough electronics to make their sound edgy, without diluting the overall feel. A guy and a girl share mic duties, further augmenting their sound. (AL)

**Ozma • Double Donkey Disc • Kung Fu Records** • No, it's not a typo. *Double Donkey Disc* is the latest from synth crazy pop rockers Ozma, and it is a collection of two EPs. The first one, *The Russian Coldfusion EP*, flirts with Russian music while remaining firmly in the rock world. The second, *The Bootytraps EP*, has nothing to do with hip-hop, and everything to do with synth heavy catchiness. (AL)

**Panic • self-titled EP • Bridge Nine** • These guys remind me of



# ☆ quickies...a little bit on a lot of records ☆

Judge and Youth of Today with a bit of a new millennium update. The four tracks on here are all very good and fast-paced with spoken/screamed vocals and really diverse guitar work. The band is made of up ex and current members of such bands as American Nightmare, The Explosion and The Trouble. (CM)

**Perpetual Sound Systems • Forward Selection • Open Source Music** • The duo that is Paul Chaconas and John Bowen seamlessly blurs the line between downtempo, breakbeat and dub in their debut album, *Forward Selection*. There is a bit of electro floating into some of the tracks, changing tempos here and there. This is an album for relaxing with headphones on. (AL)

**Pinwheel • Trouble Doll • Pinch Hit Records** • Pinwheel isn't a very rocking name. ("Dude, Pinwheel, fuckin' rocks!") But don't let that misnomer fool you; these guys do in fact rock. Pinwheel plays a brand of punk-inspired rock, reminiscent of fellow Californians Everclear. They've got the big crunchy guitars, catchy melodic hooks, and good production. It's a tried and true combination, and these guys do it quite well. Rock on, Pinwheel! (CL)

**Pirx the Pilot • Fri. Night Seafood Buffet • New Disorder Records** • They're Pirx the Pilot, and they've come to drop some knowledge. The politically charged Pirx make some wild indie rock, with nice male-female vocals. They take standard rock and roll songwriting forms, shake 'em up, and come up with new structures. Most of all, in their music and their liner notes, they challenge and encourage the listener to think about the world around them. Are you up to it? (CL)

**Playgroup • DJ Kicks • IK7 Records** • For this latest in the DJ Kicks series, Trevor Jackson (under his Playgroup moniker) assembled 23 of his favorite tracks. There is a nostalgic feel on the album, reflecting two decades of dance music, be it house, techno, electro or no-wave. (AL)

**Poulain • With Fingers Crossed • Soft Serve Records** • This release from Poulain gets the unfair advantage or being reviewed on a rainy, sleepy, Sunday afternoon. Unfair because this CD was written for just such moments. Quiet, mystical, dreamy, and flowing with watery smooth vocals (a fine blended duet of male and female) and jangly poppy rock sounds that go places like a drive in the countryside. Really quite nice. (KM)

**Preacher Gone to Texas • Choice vs. Chance • Sinister Label** • These guys have no problem exposing their angry side, with screaming vocals and crunching guitars. But they also have an emotional side, exposed by sporadic melodic singing and intricate guitar work. These two sides coexist wonderfully, sometimes reminiscent of Cave In and Poison the Well. (AL)

**Project Rocket / Fall Out Boy • Split EP • Uprising Records** • Both of these Midwest bands play some hard to resist power pop that has a punk punch. Project Rocket plays three emotional charged tunes that go from sincerely sweet to aggressive to heartfelt indie rock. Fall Out Boy also brings three tracks to the table, opening with a really catchy, pounding punk song. They follow that up with what is probably the best song on the CD, a hook-filled melodic rock tune that gets in your head. Fall Out Boy closes on a strong, creative, punk rock note, completing what is an impressive split CD showcasing two very talented bands. (CM)

**Randy • Cheater • G-7 Welcoming Committee Records** • Remember that gritty evil sounding punk that you listened to way back when? Here it is again. This is punk in the old school style. Relentless and driving, it sounds like it was recorded in a trashcan in a bowling alley. They seem like the kind of band that puts on a hell of a live show, however. (MK)

**Reaching Forward • Burning The Lies • Bridge Nine** • I love straightedge hardcore, I really do. What I don't love is when a band sounds like a carbon uncreative copy of the Victory Records catalog circa 1994. While the songs are good and the heart is there, so are all the stereotypical youth crew choruses and metal power chords. Its ok to evolve, really it is. (KM)

**Red Animal War / Slowride • Split CD • Deep Elm Records** • These two Dallas bands contributed three tracks each for this split CD. Kicking things off is Red Animal War, who plays indie rock with plenty of stops and starts, jarring your concentration. The lyrics are emotional, excellent for singing out loud. Slowride take things to a more melodic realm, with punk-influenced guitar work and layered vocals. (AL)

**Reed Dickinson • Playing Games With the Sun • Flying Kite Records** • Sometimes I laugh when I read the press material a band sends out. They try to plant these ideas in a reviewer's head and almost create the review on their own. Not the case

with Reed here. He says he plays a style reminiscent of the late 60's/early 70's and, by God, he does! He also says a lot of crafting went into these songs and, again, he's dead on. The songs are very tight and clean. I especially like the McCartney-sounding tracks, like "Happy New Year." (SH)

**Rescue • Volume Plus Volume • Dead Droid** • Put a screamo band, any screamo band really, add Braid, a pinch of thick-rimmed glasses, and a handful of technical metal and blend and then blend again to make sure. Product is drinkable, not always smooth, but digestible nonetheless. I know this is one of those bands that seeing them live would make me love them. The CD, as it stands on its own, seems to be a smaller part of the bigger picture. With that in mind, it's ok. (KM)

**Ric Sandler • Rhythunderground • Rich ID Records** • Crikey! Would someone PLEASE make a CD I can classify?! Dammit! OK, so Ric clearly has a lot of talent. Dude plays like a jillion instruments and has a ton of creativity. I don't think any of it is misguided, perse, but I do think his niche is the '70s funk-sounding stuff. He has some really noise-inflected tunes ("You Don't Know Me") that lend themselves to skipping. But "Big Boy" and "Rubies" are solid R&B/funk songs that should be heard. It's mostly mellow pop-funk stuff. (SH)

**Robbers • OrphanEndorphanDolphinDorsalFin • Keep Safe Records** • Usually the idea of visual art students starting a band fills me with concern. The desire to create sonic collages with found sounds and amateur musicianship more often than not leads to a heaping helping of total crap. Fortunately, this isn't the case with Robbers. The duo and their numerous guests do an excellent job of creating musical soundscapes that grow on you with subsequent listens. (CL)

**Rosemary's Billygoat • Eviltion • Porterhouse Records** • The first thing that comes to my mind when I see a band with costumes is "Uh-oh." Their costumes are a cross between Gwar and Slipknot, but their music is not as extreme. Instead, they are a bit more subdued, more hard rock than metal. I assume their live show is great, but without it the music sounds stale. (AL)

**Sacrilicious • Seven Songs • New Disorder Records** • Ummmm, Sacrilicious. I was somewhat apprehensive before I listened to this album; would this band live up to their Homer Simpson-inspired name? What if they sucked horribly? Well, thank your favorite deity that Sacrilicious kicks ass. Their aggressive indie rock style goes great with a six-pack of Duff after a hard day at the nuclear power plant. (CL)

**Saltwater Vampires • self-titled • self-released** • Fans of Screaming Weasel and the Queers will eat this up. This trio offers up 10 quick punk rock tracks loaded with 'whoa's, crunchy guitar and a nonstop beat and vocals that remind me of Social Distortion. The songs clock in at an average of two-minutes per track, so you can figure out the pace of these tunes. The lyrics are pretty solid, too - mostly dealing with personal issues or stories of others' personal shit. This is a really impressive release from a band few have likely heard of before, but have a world of fans just waiting to discover them. (CM)

**Sandra Black • self-titled • KnebStar Recordings** • This isn't a solo female artist, it's a five-piece band from West Virginia. They play rock with plenty of guitar and loads of intensity. There's a garage aspect to their sound; maybe it's that they favor of a raw, live sound instead of being overproduced, without sacrificing any recording quality. These 12 tracks represent their debut album and it's a striking release. This is truly solid indie rock that gets your head bobbin' with a quickness, absorbed in the energy and melodies of each track. It's also a damn creative release, using a number of sounds and styles to create a unique end result that leaves me devoid of comparisons. If it helps at all, they've opened for such bands as Guided By Voices and the Dismemberment Plan. (CM)

**Sarah Azzara • Love And Hate Among The Stars • Latest Records** • There is something about the female voice, how it can sing with power and still creep its way into your heart. Azzara, backed up by the Capitol City Dusters has a record here that is indefinable as anything but music. Unconcerned with a "scene" or a "sound" Azzara just brings to the table the simple concept of somebody with a song to sing. (KM)

**Savath + Savalas • The Rolls And Waves EP • Hefty Records** • Scott Herren's various recent the different sides of his musical personality. Whereas Prefuse 73 is a study in hip-hop with interspersed vocals and fat beats, and Delarosa + Asora explores the glitchy side of IDM, his Savath + Savalas project explores soundscapes and atmospheres. Smooth saxophone,

upright bass, guitars and other instruments create the waves of sound that permeate these five tracks. (AL)

**Self Made Man/ Suck La Madre • Split CD • Dare To Care Records** • Move along there's nothing to see here, well at least nothing you haven't seen before. Self Made Man is the better of the two, with a couple of tracks that show some potential, but lack anything solidly creative. French Canadian Suck La Madre do nothing for me at all. (KM)

**Silvercrush • Stand • Redline Entertainment** • Ahhhh...finally someone has dipped into the Collective Soul formula for success. This is AOR rock but not from the same vein as that Creed/Nickelback/Adema \*&%%. This actually has more groove to it and has more grit and edge. This is a good release for those of you Collective Soul and 7 Mary 3 fans. (SH)

**Sinners and Saints • The Sky is Falling • Bridge 9 Records** • With members from Blood for Blood and Ducky Boys, you know that you will not be getting a watered down sack of shit to listen to. This ain't Enya. A little more melodic than Blood for Blood this is honest, serious rock and roll. They sing of lots of personal problems - definitely not an upbeat disc, but definitely a good one. (MK)

**Sixer • Beautiful Trash • BYO Records** • Here is a great combination: This is a CD that is close to hardcore, but simply does not have that "itallsoundsthesame" thing which had become the norm in hardcore. Gritty and aggressive, these songs are still melodic and very easy to listen to. This would be a band you'd want to play at that next big beer bash you are having. (MK)

**Spellgate • Legends of Ardigm • self-released** • Spellgate refer to the music on their three track CD *Legends of Ardigm* as "Synth Metal." Fast tempo double kick drums are as metal as this gets, since there is not one guitar anywhere near. Still, the music is quite engaging and well arranged. You might be tempted to think of medieval movies, where dragons roam the skies and knights fight for the hearts of princesses. (AL)

**Spitvalves • Movin On • Resurrection A.D. Records** • Orlando's own Spitvalves keep chugging along with their horn-infused punk rock. Their last release, *Fine Print at the Bottom*, gained them plenty of attention and new fans. This album should do the same, as their music matures and evolves. Charlie Bender's rough vocals are countered by the melodic horns, creating a beautiful tension mediated by distorted guitars. (AL)

**Spoon • Kill the Moonlight • Merge Records** • Say what you will about Superchunk, but their label, Merge Records, consistently puts out some of the best indie rock around. Founded by the 'Chunk's Mac and Laura, Merge showcases a wide variety of bands from throughout the indie world. Needing a home after getting screwed by a major label, Spoon landed on Merge. Their Jam-inspired indie pop is in fine form again on *Kill the Moonlight* and proves that Spoon is an excellent addition to one the best labels going today. (CL)

**Striking Distance • The Fuse Is Lit EP • Bridge Nine** • Be careful or Striking Distance might knock you out with their old school hardcore, leaving you wondering what hit you. By track two your head will be nodding to the beat and if you're in a car, you'll be going way over the speed limit chanting along with the choruses, fist held high out the window. This quartet rocks out some really raw, angry, powerful music that doesn't quit. There are six tracks on here, plus the CD version has a seven-track live set tracked on at the end. (CM)

**Suicide Note • You're Not Looking So Good • Ferret Music Corp.** • These guys incorporate some garage rock into their hardcore. The vocals shift between melodic singing to screaming a few times. The guitars are distorted, but not rumbling, staying in the high end, which adds a sense of desperation to the music. You might be reminded of The (International) Noise Conspiracy or the Icarus Line. (AL)

**Supastition • 7 Years Of Bad Luck • Boiling Point/Freshchest Records** • Through the ups and downs of the shady record industry, Supastition (formerly known as Blackmel) has finally been given the chance to drop his debut album. This release is looked at as a "lifetime Journal" from this Carolina emcee as he rhymes about what went wrong in the past, love for family, music and lost souls. The b-boy like beats have a ridin' out kind of thump to them behind a rhyme style that gets rapid at times, but mostly stays calm. This project has plenty of bright spots but overall falls a bit short of being the full package. Be sure you check out "Celebration Of Life" which is about kickin' it in heaven with hip-hop's legends and "Fallen Star" a track about life's tragedies with a catchy hook. (JC)



# ☆ quickies...a little bit on a lot of records ☆

**Supreme Beings of Leisure** • *Divine Operating System* • **Palm Pictures, LLC** • For their second album, the Supreme Beings of Leisure kick it up a notch and shy away from the more mellow style of their self-titled debut. *Divine Operating System* is a dancefloor affair, full of disco beats cloaked in modern electronica. Singer Geri Soriano-Lightwood's vocals add to the playfulness of this album. (AL)

**Svenson** • *See You In Earth* • **Carcass Records** • If Reznor and Manson made an experimental CD with half the electronic gizmos they use, this would be it. Just give this a chance. You definitely cannot judge this one by the first few songs. Hell, the third song has tambourines!!! It's a very different sound, that's for sure. If you want some rock/punk/electronic stuff (with tambourines, horns and accordion?) tossed in, give this a whirl. (SH)

**Swayzak** • *Dirty Dancing* • **IK7 Records** • For their third album, Swayzak kick it up ears with hints of retro sounds, with electro-flavored house and touches of arthouse synths. I was reminded of The Normal's "Warm Leatherette" a few times, and of the Saturday Night Live's Dieter character, all dressed in black and dancing with a deadpan expression. (AL)

**Sworn In** • self-titled • **Bridge 9 Recordings** • Hardcore that will remind you of all your favorite hardcore bands. Morbidly tasty artwork on the cover is a wonderful visual representation of all the gloom and doom that these dudes espouse. The music rocks. Short songs. Screaming. Auditory agony. (MK)

**Systemwide** • *Pure and Applied* • **BSI Records** • The latest album by Systemwide can be described as a way to introduce electronica fans to the wonders of dub music. The genre's heavy grooves are flavored with 2 step, breakbeat and drum and bass, slowly easing the listener in. By the end of the last track, it will have seeped into your soul. (AL)

**T. Hallenbeck** • *Secret Society* • self-released • Here you'll find nine quick little acoustic ditties by T. Hallenbeck. T reminds me of a guy named Angie Aparo, whom you may know. His voice is reminiscent of Jethro Tull but his music is nothing like it. It's kind of quirky folk acoustic stuff and the songs are pretty short so the it flows well. (SH)

**Tagging Satellites** • *One Night Falls* • **Roam Records** • Well first off when you pick up the Tagging Satellites CD you don't notice, but are more struck at how beautiful the inlay card is. Thankfully the book is as good as the cover. With a sound not unlike a less obscure and more accessible P.J. Harvey, Tagging Satellites are perfectly middle tempo, both driving and sensual smooth without being too much of either. (KM)

**Tekulvi** • *In Recognition of Your Significant Accomplishments* • **Divot Records** • I'm not sure where these guys get their name from, but it's not my first guess, former Pittsburgh Pirates relief pitcher Kent Tekulve. Anyway, it doesn't really matter where they got their name from, just that they make some really good math rock a la June of 44. This five song EP is a very impressive release. (CL)

**The 4-Squares** • *Steve's Hamper* • **Quincy Shanks** • Hardcore punk. This is a hard driving disc that starts out with a bang and keeps on bangin' all the way to the end. This is a good disc. The songs are catchy and not fast enough that you couldn't sing along, should you be so inclined. (MK)

**The Ataris** • *Anywhere But Here* • **Kung Fu Records** • Hey, remember the first album by the Ataris and how much you liked its amazing pop punk sound? What, you've never heard it before? Lucky for you that it just got re-released on Kung Fu, with remixed and remastered tracks, plus a new one called "Anderson." The Enhanced portion of the CD features a video of an acoustic set by Kris Roe and original guitarist Jasiri Thomason at a New Year's party. (AL)

**The Black Watch** • *Jiggery-Pokery* • **Stonegarden** • The Black Watch produces a very distinct sound, an exceptionally lush brand of pop reminiscent of the Cure. They are a duo, a male guitarist and female multi-instrumentalist, the effect of which is a state of dreamy emotion, interlacing the deep, throaty vocals with some soft, high backing ones. (DP)

**The Blood Brothers** • *March On Electric Children* • **Three One G** • There is a saying, "from chaos comes beauty." The Blood Brothers bring to proof the point. Guitars going one way, voices going everyway, and the drums only slightly steering the course, it's a wild ride, but like a roller coaster, one you find yourself jumping back in line for. There is a minimum height required for sure, but it's a hell of a ride. (KM)

**The Capricorns** • *In the Zone* • **Paroxysm Records** • Anyone

who when growing up could hum the "demo" tune of any Casio keyboard will get a kick from the Capricorns. Two ladies who each play Casio keyboards, with the cheesiest sounds and beats they could muster. Incredibly, it is catchy, although about halfway through the formula runs out of steam. (AL)

**The Chinkes** • *Searching for a Brighter Future* • **Asian Man Records** • The third release by the Chinkes is as engaging as the first two. They mix rocksteady and punk with Hammond organ driven ska without horns. Pay attention, or you'll miss some of the political messages that lie underneath these super-catchy melodies. (AL)

**The Coma Savants** • *Coma Savant* • **Uvulite Records** • The best I can give you on this is a female-led Ben Folds Five. There's not much else to compare it to. It's quirky "piano-based circus/prog/rock/garage-cabaret" music, as they call it. It has some Combustible Edison sounds at times, but stays firmly rooted in the piano. It grows on you, that's for sure. I find myself smiling and tapping my toes more and more as I go through the CD. Check it out!!! (SH)

**The Damn Personals** • *Standing Still in the USA* • **Big Wheel Recreation** • Despite their new album title, The Damn Personals aren't standing still, they're going places, jack! These guys have opened for the likes of the Strokes, the Breeders, Jimmy Eat World, and the Hives among others. Musically, The Damn Personals throw garage, indie, and '80s rock into a blender to come up with their sound. They sound like they would be a great live band, given the energetic performance that comes through on their new album. It's nothing fancy, just pure rock 'n roll. (CL)

**The Fire Show** • *Saint The Fire Show* • **Perishable Records** • Frank Zappa would be proud. This band (that has like 14 people contributing) plays some pretty whacked stuff. But it's cool-whacked. It's not unlistenable-whacked. There is some, as they call it, "high-contrast art punk," "harmonic interplay" and Tricky-esque beats (especially the latter half of this CD). It's a cool disc to throw on when you just want to lie around and kind of drift off into your mind. Yeah, it's trippy. (SH)

**The Flashing Astonishers** • *On Involuntary Bliss* • **Substandard** • Multiple-personality indie rock, which isn't all bad, but leaves you wondering which one is really them. Soulful for the most part, with music that really chops along. "Soulful" has the addition of a talented female vocalist, and might be one of the best tracks. The hidden tracks just left me further confused. Flashing, yes. Astonishing, almost. (KM)

**The Flipside** • *Clever One* • **Pink & Black Records** • The Flipside coat their power pop songs in sugary sweetness, from Sabrina Stewart's vocals to the catchy guitar riffs. To this musical candy they add elements of punk rock to create a treat with a kick. Thirty minutes of pure enjoyment. (AL)

**The Funerals** • *Pathetic Me* • **Thule Musik** • Who knew Iceland had county music? I am regrettably ignorant as to what kind of folk traditions the rural areas of Iceland has, but I am pretty sure they don't have cowboys or a range to be home on, which makes this release by the Funerals curious to me. It just sounds too much like somebody slipped a Whiskeytown CD past customs and this is their impression. It isn't great, but it doesn't beg another listen either. The CD case does have some amazing art however. (KM)

**The GC5** • *Never Bet the Devil Your Head* • **Thick Records** • That this disc was produced by a member of the Dropkick Murphys is evident in the first 3 seconds. Here is that grungy beer swilling, street punk sound that makes all the kids get up and shout. This is good stuff. (MK)

**The Gloryholes** • *Knock You Up* • **Empty Records** • You know it's gonna be wild once you see the pregnant barflies clutching beer mugs on the cover. Chances are this band played that spot the night the picture was taken. The punk metal sound is all in good fun here and is stripped down leaving a live show type of energy with a recording that is full of aggression. (JC)

**The Holy Ghost** • *Broken Record* • **Clearly Records** • Founded by former Opium Taylor frontman Christopher Dean Heine, the Holy Ghost premieres their debut album, *Broken Record*. Recorded at the famed DC studio Inner Ear, *Broken Record* is a powerful indie rock album that blends the spirit of bands like the Clash and Wire with the traditional DC, Dischord records style. It's an excellent debut album. (CL)

**The Johnny Zoom Cheerlead Squad** • *Honey Baby Sweetie* • self-released • Hey! I like this!!! This is poppy but with attitude. It's not B-52's poppy. Track two, "Stereo Receiver," sounds like

The Fabulous Thunderbirds. This is cool, stripped down pop rock played by guys that have an axe to grind. (SH)

**The JW-Jones Blues Band** • *Bogart's Bounce* • **Northern Blues Music** • What do Canadians know about the blues? Sure, there are the NHL's St. Louis Blues, but what about the musical style? Well, it sounds like they know quite a bit about blues music after listening to this release. JW-Jones, a 21-year-old guitar phenom from Ottawa, shows off his chops on his band's third album. They deftly fly through a variety of styles, jazz, swing, and of course blues, without missing a beat. (CL)

**The Kills** • *Black Rooster EP* • **Dim Mak Records** • 4 songs that will put the world on alert of the coming sounds of The Kills. A caustic combo of 70's punk rock and modern day creativity. Ex-Discount singer Allison's new project out of the UK, sounds just like that, American attitude and English stylings. While I'm not blown away, there is something here that says that this is just the first whisper before a whole lot of noise. (KM)

**The Kudabins** • *KudaShudaWuda* • **Plan Z Records** • These guys are talented. Of that there is no doubt, but the production on this disc is definitely low budget. It makes them sound like a pirated recording of Judas Priest at times. I do like the disc, especially because I have nothing to compare it to. It defies pigeonholing and that is a good thing. I would definitely like to hear more from these guys - possibly with a better sound quality. (MK)

**The Mass** • self-titled • **Whole Enchilada Records** • Angry guitar riffs and screams followed by...a saxophone solo? This is the unusual music of The Mass, whose love of metal is matched by their love of smooth jazz. The screams are sporadic, and the jazz injections happen without warning, making this album excitingly unpredictable. (AL)

**The Means** • *VII/Viol* • **doubleplusgood** • Gritty, incisive, and powerful, The Means play an unclear, ferocious version of rock that has very little nutritional value, but tastes awesome. It's ugly and screeching, and that's the way it wants to and should be. They're not going for any Grammys, they're going straight for the jugular. Few bands bring this kind of raw power. (DP)

**The Melismatics** • *Postmodern Rock* • **Hygh Tension Records** • Dammit, every now and then a friggin' song gets stuck in my head. "Can't Relate", from this disc, is careening around the recesses of my brain as I write this. This CD is a rocker from start to finish. Nothing tired or stale. All of it worth listening to. (MK)

**The Mighty Mighty Bosstones** • *A Jackknife to a Swan* • **Side One Dummy Records** • The Mighty Mighty Bosstones are back on an independent label, and that's probably for the best. On this album, they sound like they have no worries, no big corporate assholes on their back, and they are free to have fun with their music. Punk, ska and reggae are all fused together in this infectious album. (AL)

**The Most Secret Method** • *Our Success* • **Superbad Records** • A good layout makes you take notice of a band before you even hear them. Pictures for your eyes to explore both before and during the music experience. MSM command your atten-

**ALIAS CLARK**  
www.aliasclark.com  
MP3S! LIVE CHAT! PICS! GOODTIMES!  
WWW.ALIASCLARK.COM

**SUPER-POWERED POP PUNK**

BOOKING INFO  
407-435-9778

E PLURIBUS SABASATCH



# ☆ quickies...a little bit on a lot of records ☆

tion from the opening of the jewel case till the last chord. Creative almost technical indie rock with tougher than you would expect vocals (which is a good thing). One of those discs that will find its way in and never leave your player. (KM)

**The Prom** • *Under the Same Stars* • Barsuk Records • Get your Kleenex out, cause you're about to cry. Omaha trio The Prom creates pop songs based on the piano, and most are sad. James Mendenhall's voice sounds like he is in pain, though he manages to sound upbeat in a couple of places.

**The Pupils** • *Self-Titled* • Discord • A little side-project action from Dan and Asa from Lungfish that is as wonderful as it is simple. In the vein of some other recent releases like Mighty Flashlight, with a strange odd modern folk sound. The songs are open and yet almost mysterious. While not everybody is going to love this sort of thing, when it finds its target audience, they are gonna be some pretty happy listeners. (KM)

**The Record Time** • *The Always* • My Automation Records • Its creepy how much this band sounds like the ghost of Braid. Luckily not in the copycat way as much as the paying homage and drawing strong influence from. Even stranger that you can hear a little Cap'n Jazz mixed in there. Beyond that there is good song writing and original passion. (KM)

**The Returnables** • *Unrequited Hits* • Jettison Music • These four cool cats play '70s style pop with a bit of punk thrown in for good measure. It's really an irresistible mix as the melodies are thick and hard to resist. Tracks such as "Monica" and "Julie, Did I?" will be stuck in your head for hours. Based on song titles, it sounds like these guys really get around; aside from the aforementioned girls-in-songs, there's also "Hey, Alice!" and the "Girl From Eau Claire." (CM)

**The Rum Diary** • *Noise Prints* • Substandard Records • This San Francisco area quartet, named after Hunter S. Thompson's first novel, creates a unique kind of indie rock, with two drum sets and two bass players, vocals and some keyboards. You'd think the sound would be buried in the low end, but they are quite adept at achieving a wide range of tones. One bassist lays a foundation while the other one noodles away at the strings. The vocals are melancholic and layered, and sometimes you don't realize they're there. (AL)

**The Rutabaga** • *Cobus Green* • Johann's Face • Lo-fi must be in. While this isn't a simple singer-songwriter situation ala Elliot Smith or Nick Drake, this has the same sound (although I wonder if vocalist Josh Hensley isn't the main person behind these tunes). This Indiana trio plays simple, acoustic pop tunes that remind me of the aforementioned artists as well as the Beatles. The 12 songs on here move along at a soothing pace, varying in style but staying true to their jangly, folk-ish roots. (CM)

**The Screwdrivers** • *self-titled* • self-released • Hailing from the tough streets of Connecticut comes The Screwdrivers, with a name much tougher than the style of music they play. They deliver fluid indie rock with a strong pop attitude – there are no frills or fancy stuff, just solid rock that would be good on a sunny afternoon or a gloomy evening – it's just that versatile. (CM)

**The Spanish Harlem Orchestra** • *Un Gran Dia En El Barrio* • Ropeadope Records • The Spanish Harlem Orchestra is a perfect example of Salsa music in modern times. Its rhythms are highly danceable, and they rarely slow the tempo down. Led by pianist Oscar Hernandez, who has played with Ruben Blades, Mongo Santamaria and Juan Luis Guerra, they explore the sounds that made Spanish Harlem a mecca for Latin Rhythms.

**The Stereo** • *Rewind + Record* • Fueled by Ramen Records • Somebody please explain to me why The Stereo is not one of the most popular bands in the world? They should be all over the radio, converting fans to their melodic brand of pop rock. I dare anyone to find a song catchier than "Don't Say Uncle!" Even though the band has had some rough times and lineup changes, they sound better than ever. (AL)

**The Timbre Project** • *Ruining Perfectly Good Songs* • Ice Cream Headache • This is a solid record, a medium-rock exposition of life experiences and philosophies. It's got the flavor of a work of spoken word, in the way the poetic lyrics represent themselves – but the music is a great vehicle for the words. Music ranges from piano ballads to radio-ready pop tunes. (DP)

**The Toasters** • *Enemy of the System* • Asian Man Records • After 21 years, the Toasters show no signs of slowing down with *Enemy of the State*. They continue to play party-friendly ska, sure to put a smile on your face with their infectious, catchy

tunes. Forget the trends, because this music is good! (AL)

**This Machine Kills** / **JR Ewing** • *split EP* • Dim Mak Records / Sonzai Records • This four-track split EP breaks boundaries. This Machine Kills (from Cali) opens with a screaming, hardcore assault that pounds from start to finish. They follow that up with minimalist electro-new-wave-art tune that is so different from the first track, it's hard to believe it's the same band. Then JR Ewing (from Norway) jumps in with semi-chaotic indiecore that is really fantastic. It's non-stop, ever-changing rock and roll that uses a combination of screamed and sung vocals, wild orchestration and plenty of aggression to punch you in the face with each track while you try to figure out if you've ever heard anything like it before. You haven't. (CM)

**Time in Malta** • *A Second Engine* • Equal Vision Records • Time in Malta have no problem with shifting gears mid-song. Vocalist Todd Gullion goes from harmonic singing to ear-piercing screaming effortlessly, and the rest of the band follows suit. While their roots lay in hardcore, they experiment with melodies and complex riffs. (AL)

**Time Spent Driving** • *Just Enough Bright* • Sessions • If I could find another band that stresses how good a small mostly unknown band could be, TSD could be it. Flirting obscurity, this bands smooth poppy feel that grinds out in an emo/post-hardcore style and lyrics that make you almost giddy, TSD easily be the next Jimmy Eat World to make it, but you should check them out now so you can say you knew about them before then. (KM)

**UHF** • *If It Was Easy* • Second Story Records • If It Was Easy is the third release from this Portland band. UHF's new psychedelic, pop songs are helped by the production of Gregg Williams, who has worked with the likes of the Dandy Warhols and Sheryl Crow. Their sound is reminiscent of bands like Beulah and the New Pornographers. This is a great collection of well-written, executed, and produced pop gems. (CL)

**Under A Dying Sun** • *self-titled* • Substandard • Under A Dying Sun tread that strange uncharted musical territory between emo hardcore and indiecore. In this case it seems more intentional and not a lack of definition. A sound that pulls the passions from all the forms and blends it together into a melodic angst filled full length, the first from this Bay Area outfit. If you want it real and honest, this one is for you. (KM)

**Unsung Zeroes** • *Moments From Mourning* • Eulogy Recordings • For their second album, Unsung Zeroes have matured a bit in their sound. They rely less on pop and more on punk. Their fusion of pop punk, emo, and indie has been getting them attention and fans for a few years now. (AL)

**Various Artists** • *Eulogy + Alveran Transcend* • Eulogy Recordings • This 19 track compilation serves as a sample of what the Eulogy and Alveran labels have to offer, including songs by Dashboard Confessional, Unsung Zeros, Drift, Arma Angelus, Santa Sangre, and more. Some of these bands are starting to make a name for themselves, some are already well known. If you like indie rock, hardcore / metalcore, you need to get this release. (AL)

**Various Artists** • *Hopelessly Devoted to You Vol. 4* • Hopeless Records • The 18 tracks on this CD range from the metal of Thrice, to the ska-core of Mustard Plug, the one man band Atom and His Package, and the political punk of Against All Authority. Also included are previously unavailable tracks from Avenged Sevenfold, Common Rider, the Weakerthans, Samiam and Digger. (AL)

**Various Artists** • *My Very Last Breath – The Emo Diaries, Chapter 8* • Deep Elm • A new chapter, 12 bands and more aural satisfaction for music lovers. As always, there are some amazing tracks, some good tracks and a couple that "aren't bad". The bands on this release are global, from Sweden to Chicago to Brazil. But each of them represents a part of the "emo style", from the more hard-edged to the soft and sweet. The standout tracks on here are by Long Since Forgotten (power pop with a dose of "core"), Down-To-Earth Approach (emo/rock ala The Get Up Kids), Hateen (indie rock that packs a punch) and The Colour Blue (amazing indie rock with smooth horns and plenty of emotion). There are few compilations out there with this kind of quality and even fewer that can attest to the consistency heard on The Emo Diaries, chapter after chapter. (CM)

**Various Artists** • *Naked Music Presents: Carte Blanche Vol. 3* • Naked Music / Astralwerks • This disc will have you groovin' in no time, as you bob your head to these deep house beats infused with jazz and funk, continuously mixed so you don't stop, even for a minute. From the drum 'n' bass tinged Blu Mar Ten

track "Trauma," to the pseudo-disco / soul beats of Weekender's "Thinking about You," these 75 minutes explore new directions in dance music. (AL)

**Various Artists** • *Playing 4 Square 2* • Suburban Home Records • Billed as "a compilation of four of the best independent record labels," *Playing 4 Square 2* packs an impressive 24 tracks into 74 minutes of explosive music by the likes of The Gamits, The Fairlanes, Finch, The Stereo, Mates of State, Cadillac Blindside, RxBandits and Aloha, among others. Melodic punk, indie rock and power pop round out this compilation.

**Various Artists** • *Pop for Charity: Sound Progression* • Doubleplusgood Records • Minneapolis-based record label Doubleplusgood Records put out this record to help a local charity organization, Pop for Charity. There is a cool variety of indie rock and pop tunes on this compilation. Highlights include the now-defunct Spiveys, Emperor Penguin, and the pure sonic bludgeoning from the Dames. It's good music for a good cause, so help somebody out and get some new music for your generosity. (CL)

**Various Artists** • *Punk Rock is Your Friend* • Kung Fu Records • Punk Rock is indeed your friend at Kung Fu Records. They have assembled 17 tracks from Audio Karate, Ozma, Tsunami Bomb, The Vandals, Antifreeze, Useless I.D., Mi6, No Use For A Name, and The Ataris. Many of the tracks featured here are unreleased or hard to find. Plus, there is an enhanced portion with four music videos and a couple of movie trailers. (AL)

**Various Artists** • *Roots of Dub Funk 2* • Tanty Records • Picking up where volume one left off, this next installment includes 14 brand new tracks from the likes of Alpha + Omega, Faya Dub, Solomon Jabby, Dubclash and others from all over the globe. If you like the hypnotic qualities of dub, you'll definitely like this album. (AL)

**Various Artists** • *Sample This, Too!* • BYO Records • To celebrate their 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary, BYO put out *Sample This, Too!*, which highlights most of the label's upcoming releases for the year. Anti-Flag, NOFX, Youth Brigade, The Bouncing Souls, Leatherface, Rancid and others are featured on this comp. And for \$2.99, that's a lot of punk for your dollar. (AL)

**Various Artists** • *Survive and Advance (Vol. 1)* • Merge Records • This compilation's objective is to bring to you as much unreleased material as possible. Brand new tracks from Radar Brothers, Annie Hayden, East River Pipe, Crooked Fingers and the Gothic Archies sit alongside sneak previews for upcoming releases from Spoon and Destroyer. Also included are some live songs by Portastatic, Spaceheads, Lambchop and Ladybug Transistor. (AL)

**Various Artists** • *Tigerbeat6 and the Beat Goes Off!* • Tigerbeat6 • Tigerbeat6 is a label that is rivaled only by the Warp and Rephlex labels in terms of the kinds of electronica artists they sign. From the art-punk of Numbers, to the kitschy sounds of Kevin Blechdom, the mellow orchestral samples of Stars as Eyes, the IDM by Aelters, and the random noises of Main, this label takes chances on the music they like, and after listening to these 23 tracks, you'll be happy they do. (AL)

**Various Artists** • *Warped Tour 2002 Compilation* • Side One Dummy Records • Fifty fucking tracks! That's what you get on this double CD compilation. Who's on it, you say? Here's a few: NOFX, Good Charlotte, No Use for a Name, Alkaline Trio, The Damned, Dag Nasty, Against All Authority, Murphy's Law and The Ataris. Even though these tracks were not recorded on tour, they still make for an ass-kicking who's who of punk and hardcore worth every penny. (AL)

**Ward Churchill** • *In A Pig's Eye* • AK Press • With the full plate of social issues available to the activist mind, for whatever reason Native American rights have been pushed back behind the curtain. Ward Churchill in his plain pointed style gives a voice, and in turn a reminder of America's shame. Two discs that cover a range of topics mostly related to the Native cause, and also the concepts of the police state, nationally and internationally. Like almost everything AK Press puts out, you really should check this out. Raising a voice is a wonderful thing, but if it goes unheard then it's futile. (KM)

**William Steffey** • *Roadstar* • Aquaphone Records • In *Roadstar*, William Steffey combines electronics with pop and a bit of indie, creating some quite catchy melodies. While you listen, you'll feel like you are driving on a deserted night, sometime in the future. The vocals were a bit weak at times, but overall, this album was enjoyable. (AL)



# ☆ quickies...a little bit on a lot of records ☆

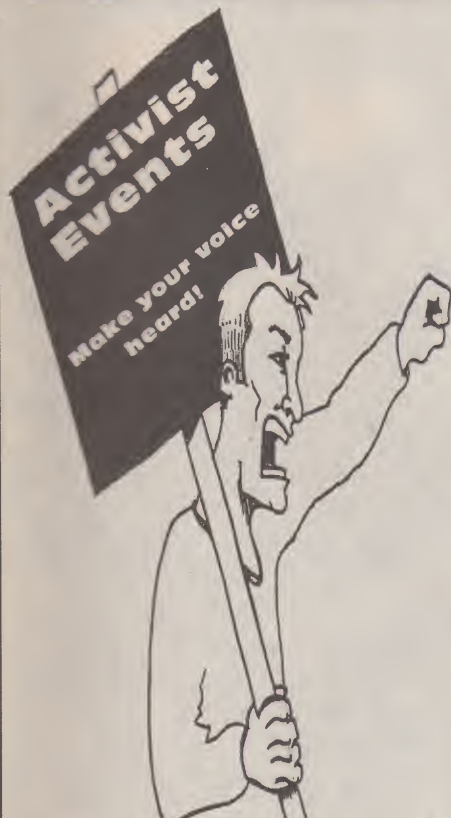
## Label Addresses

(write these guys, tell 'em IMPACT sent ya)

IK7 Records, 425 W. 15<sup>th</sup> St., Suite 2R, New York, NY 10011  
 28 Days Records, 7327 Rindge Avenue, Playa Del Rey, CA 90293  
 Adventures in Tourism, c/o R. Mofsky, 62 Wenhams St., Jamaica Plain, MA 02130  
 A-F Records, PO Box 71266, Pittsburgh, PA 15213  
 AK Press, 674A 23<sup>rd</sup> St. Oakland, CA 94612-1163  
 Alias Clark, PO Box 700171, St. Cloud, FL 34770  
 Anodyne Records, no contact information available  
 Aquaphone Records, 4637 N Spaulding Ave. 3, Chicago, IL 60625  
 Arena Rock Recording Co., 252 Wythe Ave, Studio 6, Brooklyn, NY 11211  
 Artemis Records, 130 Fifth Ave., Seventh Floor, New York, NY 10011  
 Asian Man Records, PO Box 35585, Monte Sereno, CA 95030  
 Astralwerks, 104 W 29<sup>th</sup> St., New York, NY 10001  
 Barsuk Records, PO Box 22546, Seattle, WA 98122  
 BD Records, PO Box 860, NY, NY 10268-0860  
 Better Looking Records, 11041 Santa Monica Blvd. #302, LA, CA 90025  
 Big Wheel Recreation, 325 Huntington Ave. No. 24, Boston, MA 02115  
 Boiling Point, PO Box 146, Somers NY 10589  
 Bridge Nine, PO Box 990052, Boston, MA 02199-0052  
 BSI Records, 4005 SE 29<sup>th</sup> Ave., Portland, OR 97202  
 BYO Records, PO Box 67609, Los Angeles, CA 90067  
 Carcrash Records Sweden, PO Box 39, 462 21 Vanersburg, Sweden  
 Clearly Records, 314 23<sup>rd</sup> St. Brooklyn, NY 11215  
 Dare To Care Records, 2273 De Champlain Montreal, Qc, H2L 2T1 Canada  
 Dead Droid Records, PO Box 68061, Grand Rapids, MI 49516  
 Deep Elm Records, PO Box 36939, Charlotte, NC 28236  
 Deep Space Records, 25451 Poppy Dr., Willits, CA 95490  
 Definitive Jux Recordings, 199 Lafayette St. #3b, NY, NY 10012  
 Diesel T.V., 21-38 35<sup>th</sup> Street, #4F, Astoria, NY 11105  
 Dim Mak, PO Box 14041, Santa Barbara, CA 93107  
 Discord Records, 3819 Beecher St. NW Washington DC 20007  
 Disposable Pop Rev., c/o L. Bellon, 36091 Dalewood Dr., Newark, CA 94560  
 Divorcee, Attn: R. Seitz, 4732 S. Upton Ave. upper, Minneapolis, MN 55410  
 Divot, PO Box 14061, Chicago, IL 60614  
 Doubleplusgood, PO Box 18721, Minneapolis, MN 55418  
 Eastern Conference Records, no contact information available  
 Eastern Developments, #241 1579 Monroe Dr., Ste. F, Atlanta, GA 30324  
 Eighteenth Street Lounge Music, 1210 18<sup>th</sup> St. NW, Washington DC 20036  
 Empty Records, PO Box 12034, Seattle, WA 98012  
 Equal Vision Records, PO Box 14, Hudson, NY 12534  
 Ernest Jennings Record Co., 906 Summit Avenue, Jersey City, NJ 07307  
 Eulogy Recordings, PO Box 8692, Coral Springs, FL 33075  
 Extremely Baked Records, no contact info available  
 Ferret Music Corp., 47 Wayne St. #3, Jersey City, NJ 07302  
 Fifty-Four Forty Or Fight!, PO Box 1601, Acme, Michigan, 49610-1601  
 Flying Kite Records, PO Box 263, 644 Middle Street, Weymouth, MA 02189

Forge Again Records, PO Box 146837, Chicago, IL 60614  
 Fueled by Ramen, PO Box 12563, Gainesville, FL 32604  
 G7, Box 27006, C-360 Main Street, Winnipeg, MB R3C 4T3 CANADA  
 Ghostly International, 202 E. Washington #510, Ann Arbor, MI 48104  
 Girl Harbor, 74 Freeman St. #4, Brooklyn, NY 11222-1328  
 Gold Standard Laboratories, PO Box 187262, San Diego, CA 92177  
 Goodfellow Recs, 762 Upper James St., Hamilton, Ontario, L9C-3A2, Canada  
 Government Music, Box 268162, Chicago, IL 60626  
 Groove Attack, Maastrichter Strasse 49, 50672 Cologne, Germany  
 Hefty Records, 1658 N. Milwaukee #287, Chicago, IL 60647  
 Honest Don's Records, PO Box 192027, San Francisco, CA 94119-2027  
 Hopeless Records, PO Box 7495, Van Nuys, CA 91409-7495  
 Hydra Head Records, PO Box 990248, Boston, MA 02199  
 High Tension Records, 7899 64th Street, St. Paul, MN 55115  
 Ice Cream Headache Records, PO Box 426006, Cambridge, MA 02142  
 Iguala Records, 110 Green Street #702, NY, NY 10012  
 Immedia, 5000 Beckley Ave., Woodland Hills, CA 91364  
 Impulor?, PO Box 17489, Seattle, WA 98107  
 In Music We Trust Records, 15213 SE Bevington Ave., Portland, OR 97267  
 Jaggiawar, 1021 S. Walnut, Bloomington, IN, 47401  
 Jettison Music, 6008 S. Harlem Avenue, Summit, IL 60501  
 Johann's Face, PO Box 479164, Chicago, IL 60647  
 Jon Seiff, 35 Walnut St., Dedham, MA 02026  
 Jump Start Records, PO Box 10296, State College, PA 16805  
 Jump Up! Records, PO Box 13189, Chicago, IL 60613  
 Keep Safe Records, 1016 Berlin Rd. Cherry Hill, NJ 08034  
 Kranky Records, PO Box 578743, Chicago, IL 60657  
 KurbStar Recordings, 204 East End Avenue, Morantown, WV 26050  
 Kung Fu Records, PO Box 38009, Hollywood, CA 90038  
 Latest Records, P.O. Box 21313 Washington DC 20009  
 Lex Records, PO Box 34207, London, NV5 1EF, UK  
 Lookout Records, 3264 Adeline Street, Berkeley, CA 94703  
 Loveless Records, 1122 E. Pike Street #1361, Seattle, WA 98122  
 Merge Records, PO Box 1235, Chapel Hill, NC 27514  
 Minority Records, PO Box 113, 110 01 Prague 1, Czech Republic  
 Mother West LLC, 132 W 26<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, NY 10001  
 Motherload Music, 1617 Lakeshore Lane, Plano, TX 75023  
 My Automation Records, 1419 Sugar Creek Blvd., Sugarland, TX 77478  
 Naked Music / Astralwerks, 104 West 29<sup>th</sup> St., New York, NY 10001  
 New Disorder Records, 115 Bartlett St, San Francisco, CA 94110  
 No Idea Records, PO Box 14636, Gainesville, FL 32604  
 Northern Blues Music, 225 Sterling Rd, Unit 19, Toronto, ON M6R 2B2  
 Open Source Music, 7306 Idylwood Court, Falls Church, VA 22043  
 Palm Pictures, LLC, 601 W. 26<sup>th</sup> Street, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, NY 10001  
 Panic Button, 3264 Adeline St. Berkeley, CA 94703  
 Paroxysm Records, PO Box 58133, Washington, DC 20037-8133  
 Perishable Records, PO Box 57-8804, Chicago, IL 60657-8804  
 Pinch Hits Records, 4001 PCH, Ste 104, Torrance, CA 90505  
 Pink & Black Records, PO Box 190519, San Francisco, CA 94119

Plan Z Records, 14-20 150th St., Whitestone NY 11357  
 Polyvinyl Record Co., PO Box 7140, Champaign, IL 61826  
 Porterhouse Records, PO Box 3597, Hollywood, CA 90078  
 Quincy Shanks, Box 3035, St. Charles, IL 60174  
 Radical Records, 77 Bleeker St. #C2-21, NY, NY 10012  
 Redline Entertainment, PO Box 9312, Minneapolis, MN 55440  
 Reflections Records, Spooewegstraat 177, 6828 AP Arnhem, The Netherlands  
 Rephlex Records, PO Box 2676, London, N11 1AZ, UK  
 Resurrection A.D. Records, PO Box 763, Red Bank, NJ 07701  
 Revelation Records, PO Box 5232, Huntington Beach, CA 92615-5232  
 Rhymesayers Entertainment, 2411 Hennepin Ave, S. MPLS, MINN, 55405  
 Rich ID Records, 101 S. Troy Ave., Ventnor City, NJ 08406  
 Roam Records, 3539 27th Place West #116 Seattle, WA 98199  
 Ropeadope Records, PO Box 1021, Village Station, New York, NY 10014  
 Saltwater Vampires, 1264 Co. Road 1450 E., Lerna, IL 62440  
 Sanity Check Music, Inc., PO Box 179, Boyce, VA 22620  
 Second Story Records, P.O. Box 82903, Portland, OR 97282  
 Secretly Canadian, 1021 South Walnut, Bloomington, IN 47401  
 Sessions Records, 15 Jans Way, Scotts Valley, CA 95066  
 Side One Dummy, PO Box 2350, Los Angeles, CA 90078  
 Sinister Label, PO Box 1178, La Grange Park, IL 60526  
 Six Gun Lover Records, 3203 Overcup Oak, Austin, TX 78704  
 Soft Serve Records, 137 Golden Beach Drive, Miami, FL 33160  
 Sonic Boom Recordings, PO Box 31443, Seattle, WA 98103  
 Sonic Unyon, PO Box 57347 Jackson Station, Hamilton, ON L8P4X2  
 Stonegarden Records, 3101 Exposition Place, Los Angeles, CA 90018  
 Substandard Records, PO Box 310, Berkley CA 94701  
 Suburban Home Records, PO Box 40757, Denver, CO 80204  
 Superbad Records, PO Box 21313, Washington DC 20009  
 Swami Records, PO Box 620428, San Diego, CA 92162  
 T. Hallenbeck, PO Box 8570, Emeryville, CA 94662  
 Tasty Records, PO Box 557, Harrow, Middlesex, HA2 8QE, England  
 The Screwdrivers, PO Box 135, Enfield, CT 06083  
 The Johnny Zoom Cheerlead Squad, 1104 W. Delson St. 1B, Tampa, FL 33606  
 Thick Records, 409 N. Wolcott Avenue, Chicago, IL 60622  
 Thinker Thought Records, 1002 Devonshire Rd. Washington, IL 61571  
 Third Earth Music, Attn: Kimani Rogers, 784 Columbus Ave. #4M, NY, NY 10025  
 Threadbare Records, 1625 Cola Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90813-1138  
 Three One G, PO Box 178262, San Diego, CA 92177  
 Thule Musik, 97 Avenue A #4, New York, NY 10009  
 Tigerbeats, 310 Oakland Ave., Oakland CA 94611  
 Traveler Records, 3974 Sawgrass Drive, Memphis, TN 38125  
 Two Sheds Music, PO Box 5455, Atlanta, GA 31107  
 Underground Sounds Of America, PO Box 5617, Santa Rosa, CA 95402  
 Uprising Records, PO Box 42259, Philadelphia, PA 19104  
 Uvultite Records, PO Box 5220, Madison, WI 53784  
 Veronica Records, 1573 N. Milwaukee Ave., Box 468, Chicago, IL 60622  
 Warp Records, 503 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Brooklyn, NY 11215  
 Whole Enchilada Records, PO Box 16158, Oakland, CA 94610  
 Winter In July, PO Box 38, University Park, IA 52595



### Renewing The Anarchist Tradition

When: August 15-18, 2002  
 Where: Plainfield, Vermont  
 Info: [www.homemadepjam.org/renew](http://www.homemadepjam.org/renew)

### Millions for Reparations

When: August 17, 2002  
 Where: Washington, DC  
 Info: 718-398-1766 or [d12m@aol.com](mailto:d12m@aol.com)

### Radical Rush & Progressive Fest

When: August 26-31, 2002  
 Where: Univ. Of Central FL, Orlando  
 Info: [greenliferyan@yahoo.com](mailto:greenliferyan@yahoo.com)

### Counter-Conference to National Association of Broadcasters Conference

When: September 9-14, 2002  
 Where: Seattle, Washington  
 Info: [www.deepmedia.org/cascadia](http://www.deepmedia.org/cascadia)

### Anti-Capitalist Convergence Against the IMF and World Bank

When: Sept. 27-Oct. 3, 2002  
 Where: Washington, DC  
 Info: [www.abolishthebank.org](http://www.abolishthebank.org)

### Autonomous Media Conference

When: October 3-6, 2002  
 Where: Tucson, Arizona  
 Info: [www.consensus.net/autonomousmedia.html](http://www.consensus.net/autonomousmedia.html)

Want to get an event listed? COOL. Email us: [editor@impactpress.com](mailto:editor@impactpress.com)

### Keep Space for Peace Week: Protest to Stop the Militarization of Space

When: October 4-11, 2002  
 Where: Worldwide  
 Info: [www.space4peace.org](http://www.space4peace.org)

### Media Democracy Day

When: October 18, 2002  
 Where: Worldwide  
 Info: [www.mediatedemocracyday.org](http://www.mediatedemocracyday.org)

### Nat'l Assoc. for Multicultural Education 13th Annual International Conference

When: Oct. 30-Nov. 3, 2002  
 Where: Washington, DC  
 Info: [www.nameorg.org](http://www.nameorg.org)

### Marijuana Policy Project & Students for Sensible Drug Policy Conference

When: November 8-10, 2002  
 Where: Anaheim, CA  
 Info: [www.mpp.org/conference/](http://www.mpp.org/conference/)

### Shutdown the School of the Americas

When: November 15-17, 2002  
 Where: Fort Benning, GA  
 Info: [www.soaw.org/nov2002.html](http://www.soaw.org/nov2002.html)

### 4th National Harm Reduction Conf.

When: December 1-4, 2002  
 Where: Sheraton Seattle, Washington  
 Info: [www.harmreduction.org](http://www.harmreduction.org)



# MAN WITHOUT PLAN

## GET RIGHT

STOP THE PLAYAH-HATING. THIS IS PUNK ROCK. WORD. THEIR BRAND NEW FULL LENGTH AVAILABLE 08.20.02-



\$10 POSTAGE PAID WITHIN THE US TO: IMMIGRANT SUN RECORDS, P.O. BOX 150711, BROOKLYN, NY 11215 [WWW.IMMIGRANTSUN.COM](http://WWW.IMMIGRANTSUN.COM) [WWW.MANWITHOUTPLAN.COM](http://WWW.MANWITHOUTPLAN.COM)



# WARSAWPACK

## GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT



With pre millennia in all its glory - the western world scrambles for bottled water and provisions, holding their breath for computer execs. Hamilton Harbor continues to pump 100% liberalized trade through the faucet. Corporate radio relentlessly spoon-feeds a generation polished mediocrity. Warsawpack is born.

Warsawpack brings schooled jazz artists and accomplished hip hop practitioners to a smokey basement - to talk U.S. foreign policy and jam on a groove-driven rhythm section. It is funk. It has rock. It rolls. It hops. Critics and fans haven't given it a name yet. But that doesn't keep them from talking.



G7027  
Gross Domestic Product  
OUT 09.11.02

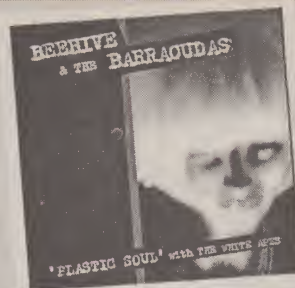
Full catalogue of radical music and spoken word available online at [www.g7welcominfcommittee.com](http://www.g7welcominfcommittee.com)





# BEEHIVE & THE BARRACUDAS

PLASTIC SOUL (with the WHITE APES)  
CD back in stores 9.23.02



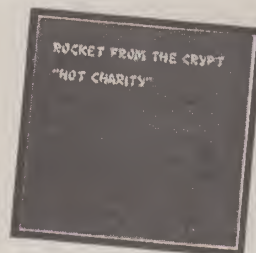
COMING SOON:



HOT SNAKES  
-AUTOMATICMIDNIGHT-  
BACK IN PRINT!  
CD/LP OUT 8/19/02

IN STORES NOW:

~~ROCKET~~  
~~FROM~~  
~~THE CRYPT~~  
~~HOT CHARITY~~  
~~CUT & PLAY~~ ~~CD~~



the long out-of-print classic  
DRIVE LIKE JEHU - YANK CRIME  
back on CD this NOVEMBER.



HOT SNAKES  
SUICIDE CD/LP  
INVOICE



SWAMI RECORDS / P.O.BOX 620428 / SAN DIEGO, CA 92612 / WWW.SWAMIRECORDS.COM

## www.VeryDistro.com



hardcore • emo • metal • punk • indie • noise • clothing • collectibles • auctions •  
interviews • message boards • 5000+ items • 300+ indie labels • easy-to-use product  
search • secure online ordering • open 24/7 • the whole nine yards • oh yeah!

*technologically challenged:*

call (215) 203-8379 for a free print catalog.

*stores:* we are cheap & indie friendly, and you  
can order online as well! call us for more details.

brought to you by

**very**  
distribution & mailorder



**FLOOR "Floor" LP/CD**

TWELVE HOUR TURN "Perfect Progress, Perfect Destruction" LP/CD & "Bend Break Spill" 10" CDep  
 GUNMOET / FIFTH HOUR HERO split LP/CD • COMBATWOUNDEDVETERAN "Duck Down for the Torso" 10" CDep  
 GRABASS CHARLESTONS / BILLY REESE PETERS split LP/CD • ARMY OF PONCH "So Many You Could Never Win" LP/CD  
 BITCHIN' "The Night Life" LP/CD • AGAINST ME! "Reinventing Axl Rose" LP/CD • ASTRID OTTO "Discography" CD  
 LESS THAN JAKE "Goodbye Blue & White" LP • TRAPDOOR FUCKING EXIT CD • RUMBLESEAT "S/T" CD

THESE PRICES ARE POSTPAID IN THE USA: 10" CDep \$6 • LP/CD \$8 • 7" \$3.50

Please see our website for overseas postage rates and a huge catalog of over 4,000 CD's, records, shirts, & other fun stuff!

**NO IDEA! po box 14636 gainesville, fl 32604 noidearecords.com**

**WE'RE ALL DOOMED**

**AVAILABLE NOW ON CD AND LP**

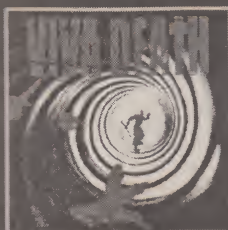
go kart Records

Go-kart Records PO Box 20 Prince St. Station New York, NY 10012 www.GokartRecords.com info@GokartRecords.com



2002

# VAGRANT RECORDS



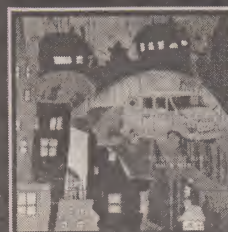
**VIVA DEATH**  
SELF TITLED  
VR373 CD

AVAILABLE 8.27.02



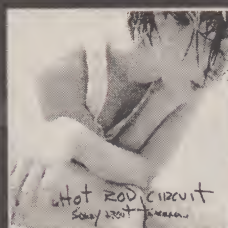
**HEY MERCEDES**  
THE WEEKEND EP  
VR372 CD EP

AVAILABLE NOW



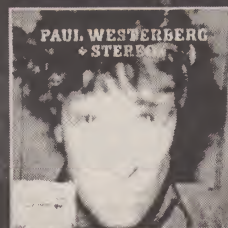
**THE GET UP KIDS**  
ON A WIRE  
VR370 CD / LP

AVAILABLE NOW



**HOT ROD CIRCUIT**  
SORRY ABOUT TOMORROW  
VR364 CD / LP

AVAILABLE NOW



**PAUL WESTERBERG**  
STEREO  
VR369 CD

AVAILABLE NOW



**FACE TO FACE**  
HOW TO RUIN EVERYTHING  
VR368 CD / LP

AVAILABLE NOW



Vagrant Records • 2118 Wilshire Blvd #361 • Santa Monica CA 90403 • [www.vagrant.com](http://www.vagrant.com)

# TRAVOLTAS .....ENDLESS SUMMER



**NEW FULL-LENGTH CD  
OUT NOW ON FASTMUSIC**

also available  
TEENBEAT and MODERN WORLD  
on ColdFront Records

Catch Travoltas on tour all summer  
visit [fastmusic.com](http://fastmusic.com) and [travoltasUSA.com](http://travoltasUSA.com)  
Distributed by SUBURBAN HOME RECORDS



LEWIS EVEN SO

DALLAS, TX - Enter LEWIS...shining with imagination, innovation and verve. Experiment laden and faced with patience, EVEN SO is filled with soaring vocals, intricate guitar play and a burst of emotion. A perfect mix of remarkably good songs and unequaled melodic hooks. The lyrics are poignant and the vocals attain heights of emotion rarely heard...and it's a voice that touches you deep inside. A masterpiece of melancholic beauty. It gives you hope. (10 songs / 45 min 04 sec) DER-410

deep elm records 100% independent



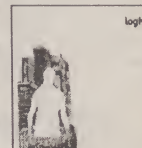
lewis  
even so cd.\$14



red animal war/slowride  
split ep.\$10



emo diaries no. 8  
my very last breath cd.\$14



logh  
every time a bell rings cd.\$14

prices postpaid usa- canada add \$1- world add \$3- get all EIGHT emo diaries cd compilations (111 songs) for \$79 ppd usa (\$88 world)  
8 hour order processing • credit-debit-check-cash-money orders • SAMPLER with 19 songs/14 bands only \$3 PPD WORLDWIDE  
coming: red animal war "black phantom crusades" • david singer "civil wars" • applesad cast "lost songs" • desert city soundtrack

post box 36939 charlotte, nc 28236 usa • (803) 631-6319  
order@deepelm.com • sounds, tours, news, contests, more...

[www.deepelm.com](http://www.deepelm.com)



# NERF HERDER

AMERICAN CHEESE

"Nerf Herder look deep into the human experience...love, cashmere, Spock, and New Jersey. Twelve new tracks with cheese, fries, and a coke."



## New Album Out August 2002!

HONEST DONS P.O. Box 192027 San Francisco, CA 94119 [www.honestdons.com](http://www.honestdons.com)

available on CD & LP

# THE FORGOTTEN

the new album  
available on cd/lp

control me control me control me

featuring members of Lars Frederiksen & The Bastards  
and The Transplants

in stores sept.3  
produced by steve kravac

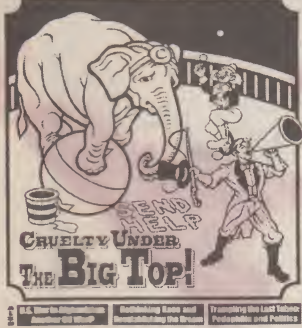
POST OFFICE BOX 67609 • LOS ANGELES, CA 90067  
[WWW.BYORECORDS.COM](http://WWW.BYORECORDS.COM) • [WWW.THEFORGOTTEN.NET](http://WWW.THEFORGOTTEN.NET)



# Back Issues

**IMPACT**  
press  
covering issues the way the media should

## IMPACT



issue #39

Issue #39, June/July '02, Cover Story: Cruelty Under The Big Top – Also: U.S. War In Afghanistan - Another Oil War?; Trampling the Last Taboo - Pedophilia and Politics; Rethinking Race

Issue #38, April/May '02, Cover Story: One Nation Under God - Blurring the Line Between Church and State – Also: Umasking the Drug-Terror Link; Canned Hunts: Slaughter By Any Other Name

Issue #37, February/March '02, Cover Story: Dying For a Cigarette – Also: Four Lies About Social Security; Rip, Mix, Burn, Go To Jail!; DEA vs. Hemp: Another "War" Waged

Issue #36, December/January '01-'02, Cover Story: Beyond The Bombs - Winning the "War" on Terrorism – Also: Endangered Species: Now Or Never; A Strong People Do Not Need a Government

Issue #35, October/November '01, Cover Story: The Modern-Day Island of Dr. Moreau – Also: Want Some Justice in Your Coffee; The Making of a Terrorist, Part One; Evolution Without God - New Arguments

Issue #34, August/September '01, Cover Story: Education on the Auction Blocks - Teaching Kids to Consume – Also: Gestation Crates - No Way to Treat a Pig; Across the Great Divide - America's Wealth Gap

Issue #33, June/July '01, Cover Story: Dissolving Bones and Cancer - The Chemical Industry Exposed – Dinosaur Fuel Becomes a Dinosaur; Fish Are Not Swimming Vegetables

Issue #32, April/May '01, Cover Story: Downed Animals - Diseased Food On Your Plate – Also: Was It the Falun Gong or Chinese Deception?; Selling Our Environment for a Barrel Oil; Educational Equality

Issue #31, February/March '01, Cover Story: Ripe for Revolt - Building a New Left – Also: Global Warming Heats Up and U.S. Runs From Kitchen; Pigs at the Trough - The Corporate Welfare State in America

Issue #30, December '00/January '01, Cover Story: Did Jesus Exist and Does It Matter? – Also: Have You Had Your Ritalin Today?; Trading With The Enemy; Confessions of an Ex-Bodybuilder

Issue #29, October/November '00, Cover Story: Attacking America's Greatest Enemy - The Bloated Military Budget – Also: Vaccine Conspiracy - Health of Profit? (OUT OF PRINT!)

Issue #28, August/September '00, Cover Story: Genetic Engineering - What's In It For Me and You? – Also: The Deadly Truth Behind Greyhound Racing; The Spaceman Cometh - Corporate Rule & Control

## IMPACT



issue #37

Issue #27, June/July '00, Cover Story: Truth on Trial - Why Capital Punishment Deserves to Die – Also: A Political Solution to Medical Errors; Unholy Alliance - The CIA and Fascist Terrorists (OUT OF PRINT!)

Issue #26, April/May '00, Cover Story: Censorship, Alive and Well in the U.S. – Also: Rape Shield Laws - Who Needs Protecting?; Antisocial Security: Your Personal Info Is At Risk

Issue #25, February/March '00, Cover Story: Vowing for Equality - Same Sex Marriages – Also: Big Brother Broadcasts the Nightly News; The Fruits of Facism - CIA-Socialism in Chile

Issue #24, December/January '99-00, Cover Story: Creationism - Monkeying With Science Education – Also: Articles by two death row inmates; Senate to World: "Screw You!" (OUT OF PRINT!)

Issue #23, October/November '99, Cover Story: Big House of Horrors - Abuse In America's Jails – Also: The Religious Left - A Moral Balancing Act; America is Selling Out Taiwan; TJ Walker columns

Issue #22, August/September '99, Cover Story: Prisoners of Conscience - US Political Prisoners – Also: Space Exploration & Exploitation; America's Ritual Genocide of Iraq

Issue #21, June/July '99, Cover Story: Imprisoning the Mind - Art Censorship in America – Also: Facing 30; Death with Dignity or a .22; A Patriotic Left

Issue #20, Apr/May '99, Cover Story: The Chaining of America – Also: The Death Penalty - Reassessing the Punishment; School of the Americas: Training Foreign Killers

Issue #19, Feb/Mar '99, Cover Story: Population Control: How Many Are Too Many? – Also: Imprisoning the Masses - Dark Side of a Prison State; Human Rights Issues (OUT OF PRINT!)

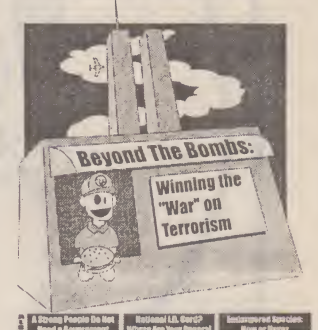
Issue #18, Dec/Jan '98-99, Cover Story: Interview with Michael Moore plus, Are Women Just a Bunch of Boobs – Also: An Inside Look at the Homeless Problem

## IMPACT



issue #38

## IMPACT



issue #36

We have listed only some of what each issue contains. Single copies: \$2 (postage-paid) each. Outside the U.S., add \$1 per copy for Canada/Mexico, add \$5 per copy elsewhere. Buy several and save: 3 issues for \$5 (\$8 Canada/Mexico; \$12 elsewhere), add \$1 for each additional copy; 10-12 issues just \$12 (not available outside US); 13-20 issues just \$15, add 50 cents for each additional copy (not available outside US). Address on page 4. Subscription info on page 20.



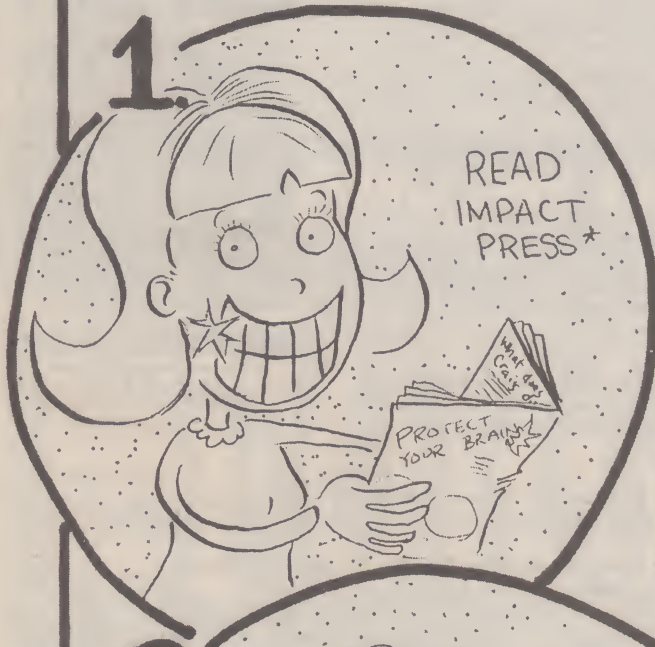
# PROTECT YOUR BRAIN!



with  
IMPACT  
PRESS

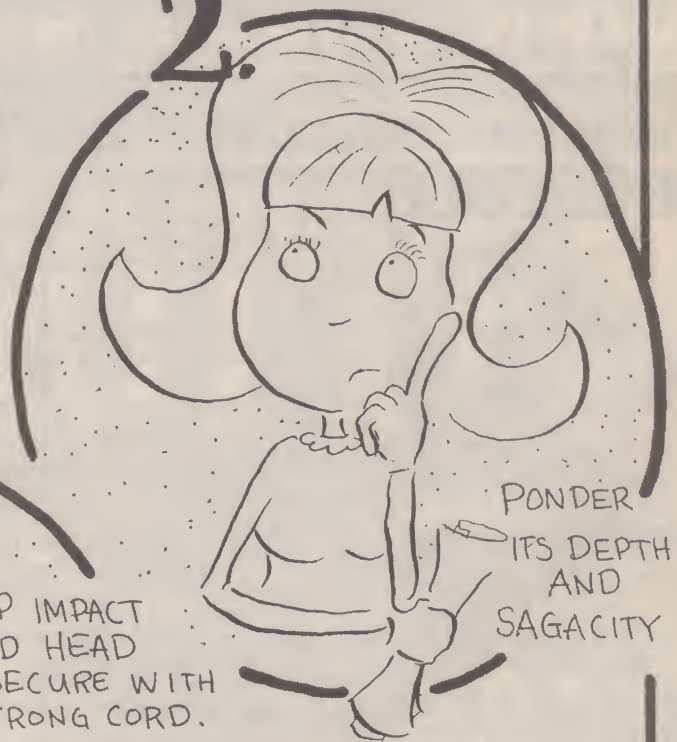
IT'S AS SIMPLE AS: 1, 2, 3!

1.



READ  
IMPACT  
PRESS\*

2.



PONDER  
ITS DEPTH  
AND  
SAGACITY

3.



WRAP IMPACT  
AROUND HEAD  
AND SECURE WITH  
A STRONG CORD.  
BRAIN WILL STAY  
FRESH AND INFORMED.

\*REPEAT AS NECESSARY.